I'm With Her 1

Sakura Fujisue

Ribon Mascot Comics

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Yume o Miru dake de Ii
(Even if Just in a Dream...)
Jun'ei Rosen
(Pure Love Route)
Ano Ko to Issho ①~⑤
(I'm With Her)

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Seishun no ○ to ×
(Youth's Good and Bad)
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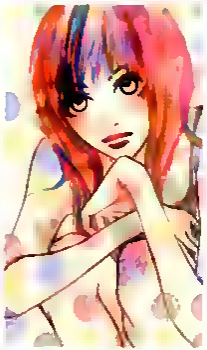
(B rank Heaven)



RIBON MASCOT COMICS Cookie

あの子と一緒 1

Ano Ko I'm With Her

藤末さくら
Sakura Fujisue

RIBON MASCOT COMICS
Cookie

I'm With Her 1

Sakura Fujisue

♦1541
Shueisha

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● Contents ●
I'm With Her ①
Sentimental Gold

Kanon makes a new friend on her first day at a new school. Kazumi and she decides to participate in a group date with her new best friend. Each leaves the place with a partner. But while Kazumi is head over heels with her new boyfriend, Kanon isn't feeling anything as special.

Author's comment

This book is my last work in my current work-place! I'm in the middle of what I think is my biggest move ever! And now it's a bit hard since I don't have the slightest idea what I can touch and what I can't... I wish I could take a long vacation at some resort and just relax...

I LOVE RMC

RIBON MASCOT COMICS Cookie

あのコと一緒 1

Ano Ko to Issho

I'm With Her

藤末さくら

Sakura Fujisue

KANORI,
DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO HER?
It's okay if it's not me...

I'm With Her ① Contents

♡ scene one *approach* ····· (3)
♡ scene two *love* ····· (45)
♡ scene three *side by side* ····· (79)
♡ scene zero *balance* ····· (119)
♡ Sentimental Gold ····· (162)

scene one
＊approach＊

Please have those items by the end of this week.
Contain the information about the things you will need to buy.
1-2
The prints that are being passed out...
Thank you.
Saka-shita..
Kanori?
Entrance Ceremony

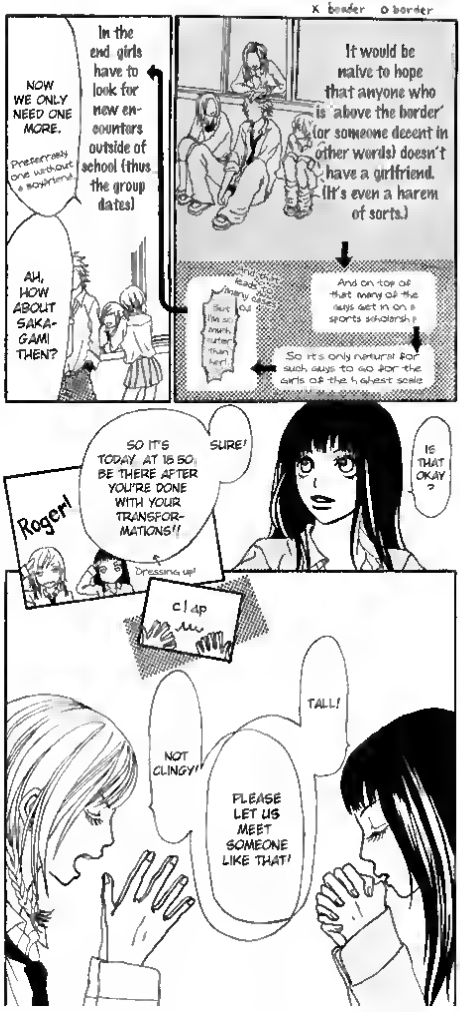
*Note: if translated literally, Sakashita means "down the hill" and Sakagami means "up the hill" - they also sound similar

IS THAT YOU?
I'M NUMBER 18 KAZUMI SAKAGAMI
OUR NAMES SEEM SIMILAR, DON'T THEY?*
DO YOU WANT TO BE CALLED BY YOUR LAST NAME OR YOUR FIRST NAME?
AS FOR ME, ANYTHING'S FINE,
BUT PEOPLE TEND TO CALL ME SAKA-GAMI...
gasp
SORRY
AH SHE SEEMS EASY TO TALK TO
SAME HERE
I THOUGHT I'D TRY AND BE QUIET THIS TIME...
grin
BUT ARE YOU ALWAYS THIS LOUD?
I GOT ANXIOUS BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW ANYONE HERE, SO I KIND OF RUSHED AHEAD...
USUALLY I'M NOT SO NOISY

There was a person I called 'best friend' in the past.
We were the so-called 'childhood friends.'
I live someplace else now, but we used to live close to each other so we hung out a lot.
HEY, LET'S STOP GOING TO SCHOOL TOGETHER FROM TOMORROW?
THE MATCH'S AND CLOSE I HAVE MORNING PRACT-ICES
HMM... THAT'S OKAY, TOUGH LETS DO THAT
HEY,
DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO HER, K.NORI?
SHE ST.RTED TALKING B.DLY ABOUT YOU.

But it's not like much has changed.
We both started eating and talking with other people.
That's all.
TODAY? THAT'S A BIT SUDDEN
WANNA GO TO A GROUP DATE TODAY?
Please?
Ah, yup.
THERE'S A VACANCY SO TO SPEAK...
This school used to be an all-girls high so there aren't many guys here now...
Okay I'm guess it'll be anyway
So...
E.G.
A popular Sure
I've never really thought about going to one
HM... WHAT TO DO?
SINCE YOU'RE ALREADY HESITATING WHY NOT JUST COME?
KANORI.

Shojo
http://shojo.stapacs.com


X border O border
It would be naive to hope that anyone who is 'above the border' (or someone decent in other words) doesn't have a girlfriend. (It's even a harem of sorts.)
And on top of that many of the guys get in on a sports scholarship
So it's only natural for such guys to go for the girls of the highest scale
Probably out of their league
But they're smart, better than her!
In the end girls have to look for new encounters outside of school (thus the group dates)
NOW WE ONLY NEED ONE MORE.
Preferrably one without a boyfriend
AH, HOW ABOUT SAKAGAMI THEN?
IS THAT OKAY?
SURE!
SO IT'S TODAY AT 15:50. BE THERE AFTER YOU'RE DONE WITH YOUR TRANSFORMATIONS!!
Roger!
Dressing up!
clap
TALL!
NOT CLINGY!
PLEASE LET US MEET SOMEONE LIKE THAT!

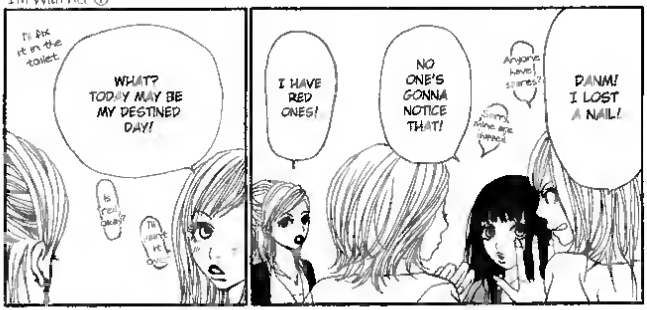
Thank you very much for taking "I'm With Her" into your hands!

This time the preparation period for the release and my rest time overlapped a bit, so I was able to write something in this space.

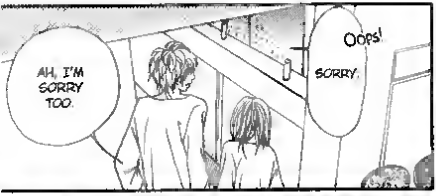
Well then—

← Continued

Well, you could say Sakagami is my best friend in the class
We eat our lunches together
talk about the silliest of things
sometimes hang out together.
but that's it.
MOM, ARE YOU GOING OUT?
YEAH.
WHEN ARE YOU COMING BACK?
I DON'T KNOW BUT IF YOU COME BACK FIRST DON'T FORGET TO LOCK THE DOOR BEFORE GOING TO SLEEP.
OKA-AAY
GEEZ, I'M NOT A KID...
AH! THERE SHE IS!
CAN YOU IMAGINE, MY MOM TOOK THE CLOTHES I WAS PLANNING TO WEAR
AH, YOUR MOM'S VERY YOUNG, RIGHT?
My parents don't have many clothes to begin with.
SHE'S NOT YOUNG, SHE JUST TRIES TO LOOK IT
AH, YEAH! EVERYONE'S ALREADY HERE OKAY, WE'RE COMING THEN!


It's in the toilet.
WHAT? TODAY MAY BE MY DESTINED DAY!
Is it really okay?
I'll check it out.
I HAVE RED ONES!
NO ONE'S GONNA NOTICE THAT!
Anyone have stones?
Hmm, mine are pierced.
DANM! I LOST A NAIL!

BUT SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT DO...
Destiny? Actually, I don't really believe what I said myself ...

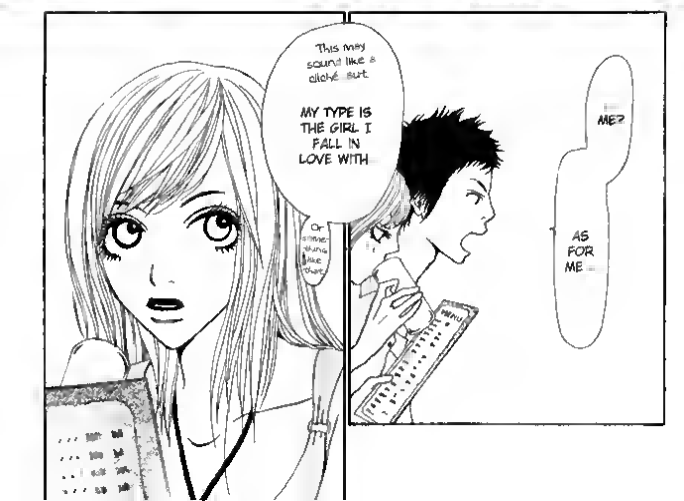

AH, I'M SORRY TOO.
OOPS!
SORRY.

HOW ARE THE GIRLS?
DUNNO YET
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE
WOW, HE'S SO TALL ..

WE'RE GOING AHEAD THEN
OKAY

DAMN, I WANNA HAVE SEX
LOOK WHO'S TALKING. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ALWAYS GOES FOR THE LOOKS...
IT'S WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE THAT COUNTS
Mostly...
WELL, WHEN IT COMES TO WOMEN, IT'S ALL ABOUT THE LOOKS, NOT THE PERSONALITY
We're high-schoolers after all
DAMN, I SHOULD'VE UPLIFTED MY HAIR
I GOT A GLARE
IDIOT, TONE IT DOWN!
GASP!
AH, EXCUSE ME
whoosh
AS FOR MY TYPE,

Well I'm sorry I'm not your type...!
IT'S YOUR FAULT I COULDN'T FIX MY NAILS!!
Ah, today is such a failure...
Trying to hide it
I PREFER GIRLS WHO LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IN OTHER WORDS, I WOULD LIKE SOMEONE WHO TAKES CARE OF BOTH, THEIR OUTER AND INNER SELF.
I'LL JUST EAT!
WHAT ABOUT NAKAO-KUN...?


ME?
AS FOR ME...
This may sound like a cliché but...
MY TYPE IS THE GIRL I FALL IN LOVE WITH
Or rather, sounds like that.

EXCUSE ME, CAN I MAKE AN ORDER?
STAY AWAY!
SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS THAT ANYONE WILL DO FOR NOW?
HMM?
munch
WE ARE TOO, RIGHT, KANORI?!
HA! HA! HA!
You're so mean!
AH, YEAH. WE'RE BEST FRIENDS RIGHT?!
Cheers!
One more!
THE TWO OF YOU ARE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS
WE'RE BEST FRIENDS, TOO!!
YUP, THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE BOTH IN THE SAME CLASS, AREN'T YOU?

THAT'S SO NICE, TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT SO EASILY
WERE YOU THAT HUNGRY?
YOU'RE REALLY GOBBLING IT DOWN. LOOKS GOOD!
HEY, KOTA!!
STOP BUGGING KANORI-CHAN!!
WHOOSH
SHUT UP, I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO HER YET!
AH!
"YET?"
Oh God, this is not funny...
HA! HA! HA! HA!
SHUT UP, YOU IDIOTS!!
DID YOU HEAR THAT? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? WERE YOU PLANNING TO DO SOMETHING AFTERWARDS?
HA! HA!

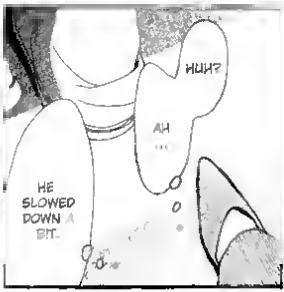
Sakagami, danger!!
HEY—
HEY, SAKAGAMI!
SAKA-GAMI!!
Let's go karaoke!
SEE YOU! BYE-BYE!!
GOOD NIGHT!

WOW
HE'S SO NICE!
WOW!
LISTEN, THAT ENA GUY, HE...
KANORI!
HE'S TOTALLY MY TYPE!!
I KNEW YOU'D LIKE HIM!
KANORI-CHAN!
He's nice only because he has an ulterior motive.
There is a saying like that.
I'LL WALK YOU HOME
But that's probably not what she wants to hear right now.

AH, THANK YOU, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO
I'm all right
WE BARELY EVEN TALKED
Not like I knew
SEE YOU TOMORROW, KOTA.
SAKAGAMI
DO YOU TAKE THE SUBWAY OR THE JR?
EH? AH, THE JR
LET'S GO THEN.
?
?
tap
ARE YOU OKAY?

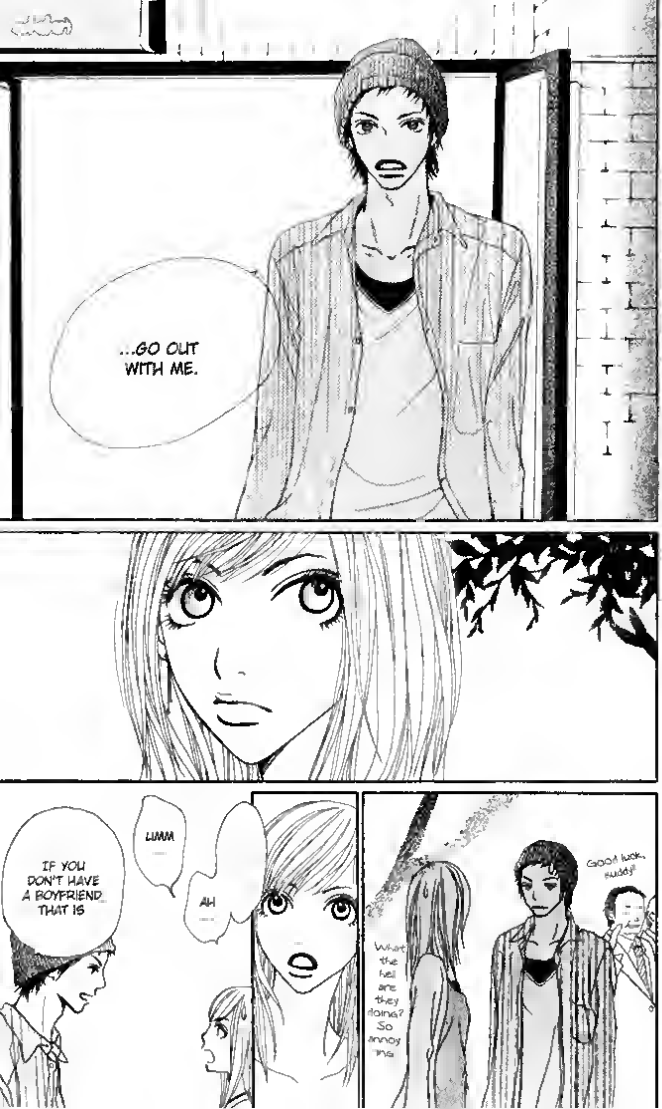
What a strange feeling.
AH, IT'S COMING.
IT'S REALLY ALL RIGHT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME WITH ME. I'M NOT WEAK OR ANYTHING.
YEAH, BUT...

EH?
ABOUT WHAT?


HUH?
AH
HE SLOWED DOWN A BIT.

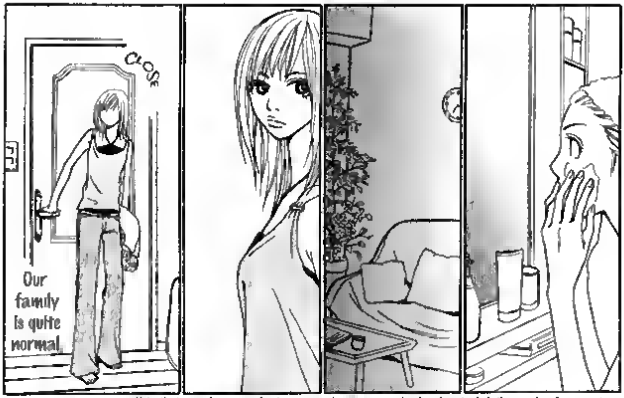
WHY IS HE SO CONSIDERATE ALL OF A SUDDEN?

ACTUALLY, THE REAL MEANING BEHIND THE WORDS "I'LL WALK YOU HOME" IS "I WANT TO BE WITH YOU A BIT LONGER."
CLUNK
REAL-LY?
YEAH
CLUNK
THERE'S NO MEANING TO THAT IF IT'S NOT KANORI-CHAN.
...
THEN ...
YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPIER WITH SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE SHE WANTED TO BE WALKED HOME.
CHOP!
BONK!
OW!
WELL THEN,
MY PLACE IS RIGHT THERE.
...
WHAT A STRANGE FEELING ...
KANORI-CHAN...
THANK YOU FOR THIS.

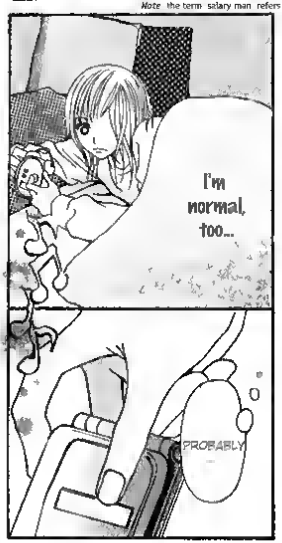

...GO OUT WITH ME.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND THAT IS
UMM...
AH...
What the hell are they doing? So annoying.
Good luck, buddy!

I wonder why it's me...
.... AH I'M BEING TOO SELF-CONSCIOUS AGAIN...
KANORI-CHAN
ERM... WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN ?
I'M A 2ND YEAR, IN HIGH SCHOOL SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD AND MY NAME IS
KOTA NAKAO
IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO ASK GO AHEAD
HE JUST PROBABLY WANTS SOME-ONE TO CALL HIS 'GIRLFRIEND' RIGHT NOW
AH

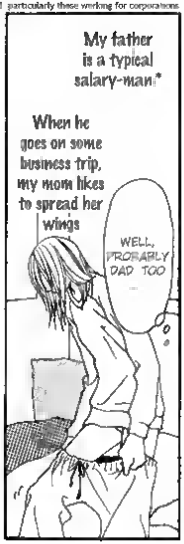
WOOO-HOOOO!!!
LUMM
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME
bow
click
Switch
clack



Note: the term "salary man" refers to someone whose income is salary based, particularly those working for corporations.



But when we're all together, we act like a normal family.



"THERE'S NO MEANING TO THAT IF IT'S NOT KANORI-CHAN."
Please send me a lot of e-mails from now on
I'll do so, too.
-Kota
CHOP!

I hope he's a good guy

I hope I fall in love with him,

and he falls in love with me.

I hope that..

...from now on we'll have a lot of fun.

Shojo
http://shojo.alspice.com

REALLY? YOU THINK SO?
YUP!!
HE DEFINITELY HAD HIS EYE ON YOU RIGHT FROM THE START!
HE WAS SITTING SOMEWHERE ELSE AT FIRST...
WHAT? NOPE, YOU'RE WRONG!
REALLY...?
*Note: sometimes people add the -min -rin and such to names to make them sound cuter
KAZU-MIIIIN...!*
ENA-KUUUUN!
AH!!
AH, YEAH.
My bro
BYE SAKAGA
WE DON'T NEED TO ACT LIKE THAT, RIGHT? Like those two.
AH, SHE'S GONE ALREADY

ME TOO! THIS IS MY FIRST TIME PICKING UP MY GIRLFRIEND AT THE GATE LIKE THIS
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME DOING THIS What should I do?
UM
HM?
ONE MACCHIATO, PLEASE.
I'M OLDER ?
SO WHAT?
I'M THE GUY
EH? WHY?
I CAN PAY THIS MUCH
IT'S OKAY, I'LL PAY FOR MYSELF
I GOT IT
Please wait over there.
YEAH I LIKE BITTER THINGS
IT'S BITTER.
EH? NO PLAIN MACCHIATO
CAR-AMEL ...?
I CAN PAY FOR ONE LITTLE
OW!
SMACK

WHY IS IT THAT WHATEVER I DO YOU KEEP GOING AGAINST ME?
GIVE ME A SIP!
BITTER!
SOMEHOW THIS FEELS LIKE A DATE
IT IS A DATE!
ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID AT THE GATE...
HAVE YOU NEVER HAD A BOYFRIEND?

I HAD A BOYFRIEND FOR A BIT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, BUT...
TO BE HONEST, I'VE NEVER GONE ON A DATE OR ANYTHING ...
AH, I
IT'S OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO SPEAK ABOUT THE PAST...
SORRY, THAT WAS RUDE..
I HAVE, ACTUALLY ....
WHAT KIND OF DATES DO YOU GO ON, KOTA-KUN?
EH?
UMM... USUAL STUFF, I GUESS. LIKE GOING TO A MOVIE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
Like the ones you see in dramas and manga?
Ha ha!
I SEE! USUAL STUFF, HUH...
Erm...
WHAT DO YOU THINK PEOPLE DO ON DATES, KANORI-CHAN?
IS SHE TESTING ME?
She isn't.
Uh...

... THEN, LET'S GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK NEXT TIME!
SOUNDS GREAT!
And AMUSEMENT PARKS, TOO!
Usual very usual!
ARE YOU OKAY WITH JET-COASTERS AND SUCH?
I'M TOTALLY OKAY! I LOVE THE ONES THAT MAKE YOU SCREAM!
PCH!
But what will we do...
...when all of our ideas run out..?
THEN... WHY DON'T WE START FROM THE "USUAL" MOVIE?
LET'S TRY OUT EVERYTHING THAT COMES TO MIND!

YOU WON'T CLOSE THEM?
HUH?
YOUR EYES.
THEN I'LL KEEP THEM OPEN.
...!!
GOO! GIRL
NO, IT'S FINE
I DON'T KNOW... I WAS LOOKING AT YOU
YOU DON'T LIKE THAT?

I LOVE YOU.
... DO YOU LOVE ME?
YOU'RE SUCH A PERVERT ...
OF COURSE I DO.
I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH...
SPLISH
SPLISH
SPLISH
SAKA-GAMI ... IS WITH ENA-KUN TOO...
I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY...

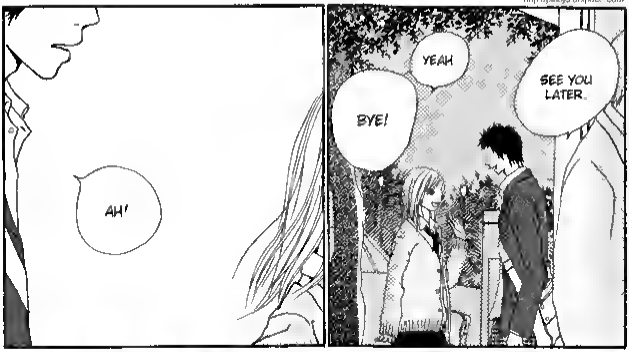
TIME TO GO BACK, HUH?
ALRIGHT
SORRY I TOOK SO LONG.
WELL, IT'S ALRIGHT I GUESS
Actu-ally...
more like, very right.

DO YOU STILL HAVE TIME?
HMM?
OR DO YOU HAVE A CURFEW?
AH, WAIT, DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS NOW?
YUP, PROBABLY
was thinking the same thing
LEAN
I'M OKAY AS LONG AS I MAKE IT TO THE LAST TRAIN
DO YOU WANT TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?
AH, BUT WE CAN'T DRINK IN OUR UNIFORMS...
DAMN. WHAT DO WE DO?
I WANT TO COME TO MY PLACE?

I LIVE BY MYSELF... DO YOU WANT TO SEE IT?
HUH?
EH?
LIM... MY FAMILY HOUSE IS FAR AWAY.
WHY? WHY DO YOU LIVE ALONE?
EHHH...
THAT'S SO NICE! LUCKY YOU!
YEAH, I WANT TO SEE IT.
YOU SURE?
YUP.
REAL-LY?
?
YEAH, WHY NOT?
...
LIMM...
IT'S A BIT TOO LATE AFTER ALL, AND MY ROOM'S REAL-LY MESSY ANYWAY.
EH? AH... I SEE...
I REALLY WANTED TO SEE IT THOUGH...

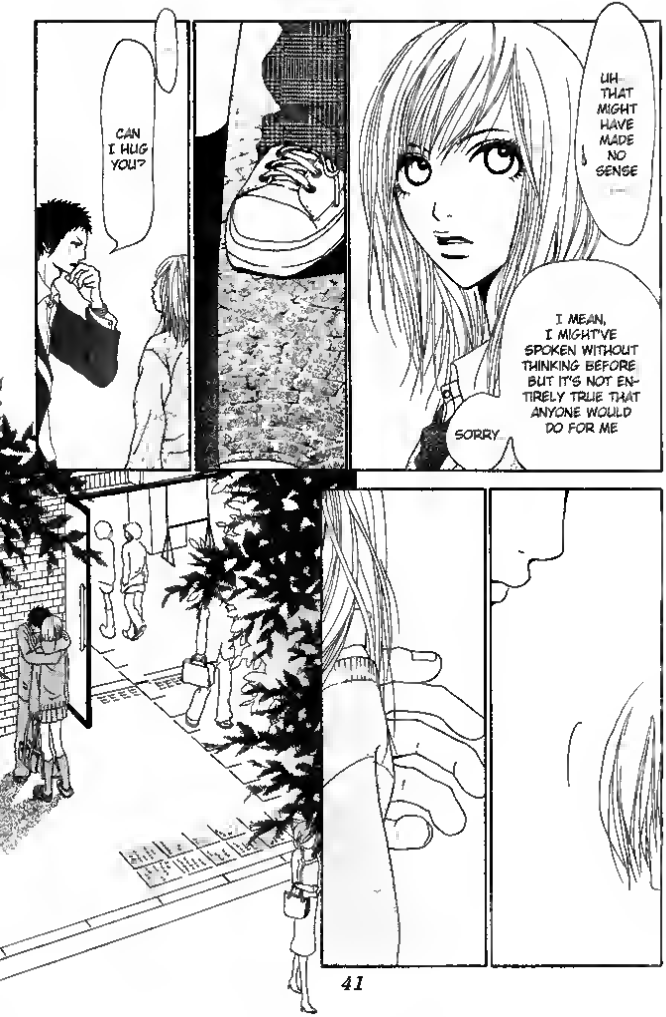
Somehow...
All of this turned out to be really fun.
...Is it okay...
...if I get into it?
I'LL INVITE YOU AGAIN NEXT TIME
OKAY.
But...
THANKS FOR TODAY.

sholo
http://sholo.areplace.com



I'LL CALL YOU
IT'S...
IT'S BECAUSE...
ANYONE WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE FOR YOU!

Our seat numbers were next to each other by sheer luck...
I was there by chance...
It was a coincidence that I moved to the same neighborhood..
Ahhh
THAT DAMN ENA AND HIS NONSENSE...
YOU WOULD HAVE GONE WITH ANYONE WHO WAS SITTING NEXT TO YOU, AND IT JUST SO HAPPENED THAT THAT PERSON WAS ME.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SORRY, I'M SAYING STRANGE THINGS.
Well then
DO YOU THINK I WOULD TRADE HER FOR SOMEONE ELSE?
AND I FOUND OUT SOMETHING ABOUT HER THAT NO ONE ELSE KNEW ...
BUT IF WE CREATED MEMORIES TOGETHER,
ANYONE WOULD DO.
IF IT WAS SOMEONE I COULD TALK TO EASILY,


UH— THAT MIGHT HAVE MADE NO SENSE
I MEAN, I MIGHT'VE SPOKEN WITHOUT THINKING BEFORE BUT IT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE THAT ANYONE WOULD DO FOR ME
SORRY
CAN I HUG YOU?

BYE THEN.
I understand...
YUP, SEE YOU!
AHHH?!!
P-PENNY?
"WANT TO COME TO MY PLACE?"
"ARE YOU SURE?"
SO THAT'S WHAT HE MEANT
I SEE
THAT GIRL YOU'RE ALWAYS WITH

WHAT'S HER NAME AGAIN?
KANORI...?
YEAH, KANORI-CHAN
SHE'S TOTALLY MY TYPE
THAT REMINDS ME. WHY DON'T YOU TRY OUT THE PILL, HUH?
UH... IT DOESN'T REALLY SUIT ME. I GET HEADACHES IF I TAKE IT.
HMM
YUE ACE LEAVE YOU

I hope I fall in love with him.

and he falls in love with me.

I hope that..

...from now on we'll have a lot of fun

あのコと一緒

I m With Her

Ar [illegible] ssh

scene two

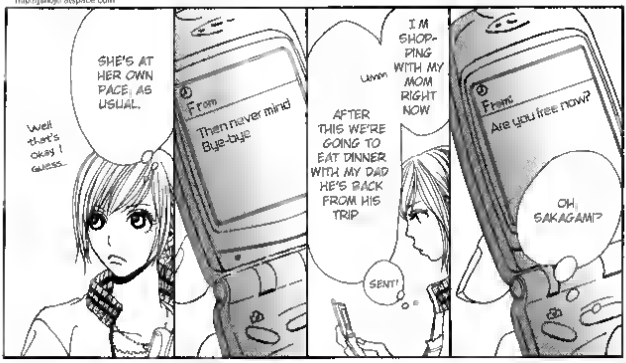
＊ lovers ＊

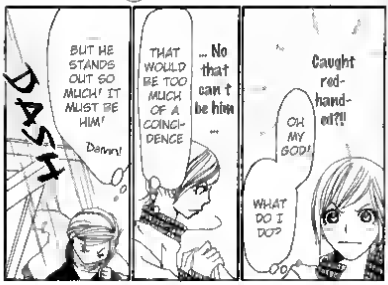
I'M REALLY INTERESTED IN YOU
WANNA TALK A BIT?
THAT'S A BIT TRANSPARENT
NO, I'M SERIOUS
YOU DON'T LIKE ME?
The phone you have called
is either turned off or in a place
BEEP
Redial
Yuya Eria

YOU'RE SO CUTE, KAZUMI-CHAN
I THINK I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU
HA HA HA!
I'M SERIOUS
CAN'T I?
I LOVE
YOU, TOO
I THINK
The phone you have called is either turned off...
...or in a place
BEEP

plop
LOOK, THIS ONE'S SO PRETTY!
KANORI, TRY IT ON!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON YOURSELF, MOM?
EXCUSE ME. CAN I TRY THIS ON?
NOW— SOME-THING ELSE FOR ME
And I can just borrow that one later
YOU... YOU THINK?
Aren't I a bit too old for this?
IT'S FINE!

Shojo
http://jshojo.otspace.com


SHE'S AT HER OWN PACE, AS USUAL.
Well that's okay I guess.
From
Then never mind Bye-bye
I'M SHOPPING WITH MY MOM RIGHT NOW
Umm
AFTER THIS WE'RE GOING TO EAT DINNER WITH MY DAD HE'S BACK FROM HIS TRIP
SENT!
From
Are you free now?
OH, SAKAGAMI?


DASH!
BUT HE STANDS OUT SO MUCH! IT MUST BE HIM!
Damn!
THAT WOULD BE TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE
... No that can't be him ...
Caught red-handed?!!
OH MY GOD!
WHAT DO I DO?

ENA-KUN!

AH
KANORIN.

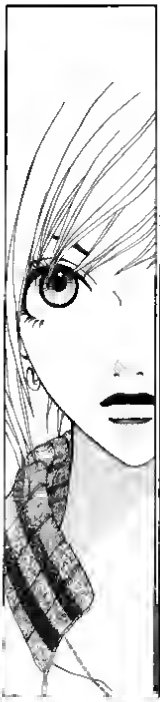
?!!!

HI!
EH, KOTA'S?
AH, SHE'S KOTA'S GIRL-FRIEND
WHO IS SHE?
HEY, THAT'S MY LINE!
WHAT'S UP? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
Kanori-chan
KANORI-CHAN
Come here for a bit.
EH? AH HI—
HUH ?
SHE'S MY SISTER.
ENA?
Will this take long?
I'LL GO LOOK AROUND IN THAT SHOP
DOES YOUR SISTER CALL YOU BY YOUR LAST NAME?
—DON'T GO ANYWHERE I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!
You were having strange thoughts right?
stare
Tug!
SORRY!
PLEASE DON'T TELL KAZUMI, OKAY?

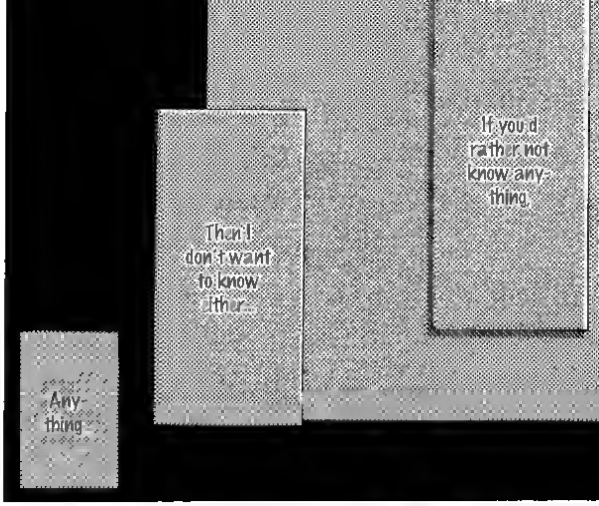
KANORI-CHAN.

I PUT THIS ON SO YOU COULD HAVE A LOOK, AND YOU WERE ALREADY GONE!
I ENDED UP BUYING IT THOUGH.
You can borrow it if you want.

AH... IT'S NOTHING. LET'S GO.
WHAT'S WRONG?
Anything...

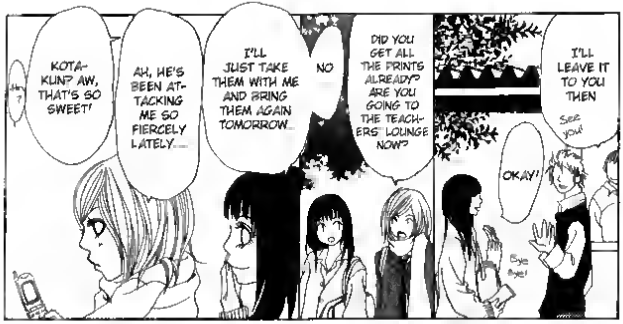


PLEASE HELP ME OUT
I'M SERIOUS ABOUT KAZUMI


If you'd rather not know anything...
Then I don't want to know either...
Anything...

1 — 2
SO, YOU KNOW...
WHAT? BOYFRIEND-TALK AGAIN?
I HEARD THAT ALREADY
I-I-I-I'm not Tess one!
HE TOLD ME "YOU'RE THE ONE!"

Sag
ENA STOP WITH THE NON-SENSE !
Gyaaa!!
What the hell?
Are we supposed to be jealous?
Whatever
STOP! QUIT IT!
NO, IT'S OKAY!
REAL-LY?
WHAT ABOUT YOU KANORI?
WELL, FOR THE TIME BEING HE SEEMS LIKE A DECENT GUY!
Though we go to different schools so we can't be sure.
SHOULD I ASK AROUND?
About his behavior and such
THOUGH I DON'T REALLY KNOW HIM OR ANY-THING...
Sorry
BUT YOU KNOW, GUYS WHO SAY SUCH THINGS SO EASILY USUALLY TURN OUT TO BE PLAYBOYS
"IT'S OKAY! YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THE PAST "
"AH "
EH? AHHH
I'M FINE, TOO


I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU THEN
SEE YOU!
OKAY!
BYE BYE!
DID YOU GET ALL THE PRINTS ALREADY? ARE YOU GOING TO THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE NOW?
NO
I'LL JUST TAKE THEM WITH ME AND BRING THEM AGAIN TOMORROW...
AH, HE'S BEEN ATTACKING ME SO FIERCELY LATELY...
KOTA-KUN? AW, THAT'S SO SWEET!
HE?

HERE THEY COME!
AH!
THEY'RE ALREADY HERE!
AH!

dash
WHAT DO I DO?
I SHOULD...
BUT...
...PROBABLY TELL HER...
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT.
AT FIRST I THOUGHT I SHOULDN'T TELL YOU, BUT...
EH?
W...WHAT IS IT?
gulp
YOU KNOW,
I HEARD THIS RUMOR THAT KOTA-KUN WAS QUITE A PLAYER...
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...

KAZU-MIIIIN!
BUT DON'T TELL HIM IT WAS ME WHO TOLD YOU THIS!
ENA-KUUUN!
THEN HOW COULD SHE SAY IT SO EASILY?
HI!
HM?
AH
HI!

*Pair X Pear similar sounding (devec)

*Coordinate X Christian Dior

*Note: leaving out the honorifics usually implies that you're close with the person.

AT THE GATE JUST NOW,
WHAT DID YOU TWO TALK ABOUT?
EH?

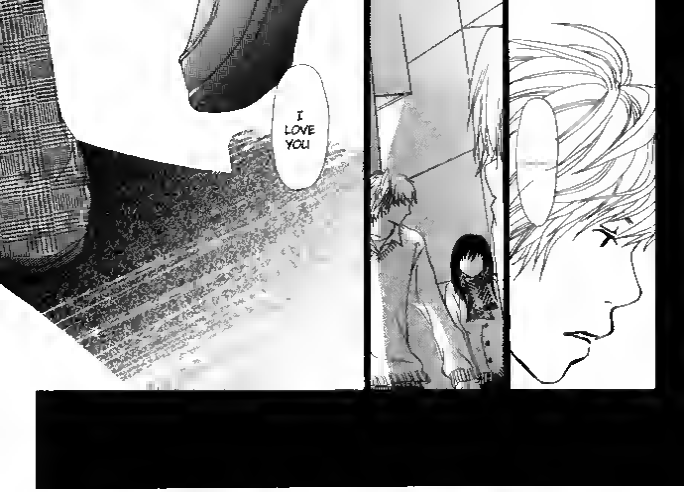
WITH THAT GUY JUST NOW, YOU TWO CHATTED QUITE HAPPILY
EH? YOU SAW THAT? IT WAS NOTHING.
I'M ON DUTY RIGHT NOW SO I HAD TO GATHER THE PRINTS
WASN'T YOUR CLASS AN ALL-GIRLS ONE?
NOPE. ABOUT ONE-FOURTH IS BOYS
HMMM

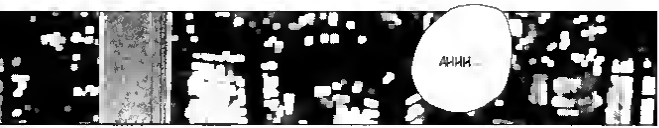
HEH HEH ♥
ARE YOU JEALOUS?

WHAT IF I AM?
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME
I'M
SORRY?
pat
(ruffle)
!

I LOVE YOU SO MUCH
IS IT ANNOY-ING?
THAT I'M JEAL-OUS?
NO IT MAKES ME HAPPY
I GUESS
REAL-LY?

huff
CAN WE DO IT AT YOUR PLACE TODAY?
... NO... TODAY'S NOT GOOD...
I DON'T HAVE MUCH MONEY ON ME TODAY.
DAMN ...
EH?
AH.
I HAVE SOME...


I LOVE YOU


AHHH...

Y...
YES!!
KOTA-KUN, ARE YOU...
JUMP
Reflex
KOTA-KUN!!
I REALLY WANT A NEW PHONE ONE THAT HAS A HIGH-PIXEL CAMERA.
But it doesn't even have a strap! Get my camera one...
JUST AS I THOUGHT, I HAD MY EYES CLOSED
It's because we used an analog camera
THE PHOTO THAT WE TOOK TOGETHER
LOOK

ARE YOU LYING TO ME?
I'M NOT...
BUT... EH?
WHY?
THEN...
YOU'RE NOT HIDING ANYTHING FROM ME ARE YOU?
HEY, AT LEAST HIDE IT BETTER!
"KOTA'S?"
THAT GIRL...
SHE KNOWS KOTA-KUN...
It's like...
WHICH ONE?
ENA-KUN
HE'S TWO-TIMING
SINCE YOU'RE HIS FRIEND YOU MUST KNOW ALL ABOUT IT

Well then... Even though this space is somewhat of a "back-stage," it's not much of a big deal really...

I think "I'm With Her" is a little bit darker than my other works that I've done for "Cookie" so far.

...But as it turns out, that might just be me thinking that...

"Do you really still want to know the same kind of stories that you've done before...?"

I've got quite a lot of letters asking me this... ...But I think I do. I'm sorry if you don't like such stories. On the other hand, if you do, please enjoy it.

Shallowness that makes you go (Huh?), serious, modern-day issues, sex scenes...a little bit of myself... I think these are the things that make my stories mine. I'm sorry if it's not your cup of tea.

By the way, middle-schoolers Kota and Ena who appear in the extra chapter are both about 175 cm tall. Kota has pretty much stopped growing after he entered high-school, but it seems Ena is not done yet ... I'll make a little confession, I have a height fetish. Also, a neck-tie one...

... Hey! What's with this coming-out...?

← continued

TWO-TIMING?
DID KAZUMI-CHAN TELL YOU THIS?
NO... SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT. I CAUGHT HIM IN THE ACT MYSELF THE OTHER DAY...
Damn, he didn't text me...
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I HID IT ON PUR-POSE...
Umm
I JUST WASN'T SURE IF I SHOULD TALK ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT

...
SORRY
...
SORRY, KANORI-CHAN I MIGHT BE WRONG, BUT I THOUGHT THAT IF I TOLD YOU THINGS WEREN'T GOING WELL FOR THEM, IT MIGHT HAPPEN TO US, TOO
I PROBABLY HID IT AFTER ALL...
I.
WHEN YOU EXPLAIN YOUR FEELING TO ME LIKE THIS YOU ALWAYS GIVE IT YOUR BEST
YOU KNOW.
I'M SORRY
ANYWAYS,
AH, BACK TO "KANORI-CHAN" AGAIN

I REALLY LIKE THAT PART OF YOU, K... KOTA
AH...
LMM...
I REALLY WANT TO HUG YOU RIGHT NOW.
I'M AT MY LIMIT ALREADY.
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
PFT!
WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?
IT'S, IT'S...
I can't hold it in anymore!
he he he ha!
It wasn't up and nosed it hurts!!
Thank you very much.

I'VE HEARD THIS RUMOR THAT KOTA-KUN WAS QUITE A PLAYER...
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Well, it would be a lie to say that this doesn't bother me at all.
But I can't say that I'm very bothered by it either.
I'LL TALK TO ENI ABOUT IT.
OKAY. THANKS.

A caring friend?
BYE-BYE, KOTA-KU KOTA
WELL THEN, SEE YOU, KANORI
YOU'RE SUCH A CARING FRIEND
..I'm not ...really...
UM... KANORI?
Here it is!!
AH
UMM...
HM?
DO YOU
WANNA COME OVER?
IT'S NOT VERY LATE YET OR ANYTHING
MMM

Shojo

BYE THEN
OKAY GOT IT
SORRY !
MY DAD'S OUT OF TOWN A LOT, AND NOW, BY CHANCE, HE'S BACK FROM HIS BUSINESS TRIP.
SO I CAN'T STAY OUT FOR TOO LONG.
IS THAT SO
SINCE HE'S AWAY A LOT, THEY GET REALLY NOISY IF I DO

WHAT'S WRONG ?
WHAT I JUST SAID IS TRUE
BUT IT'S NOT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO. OKAY?

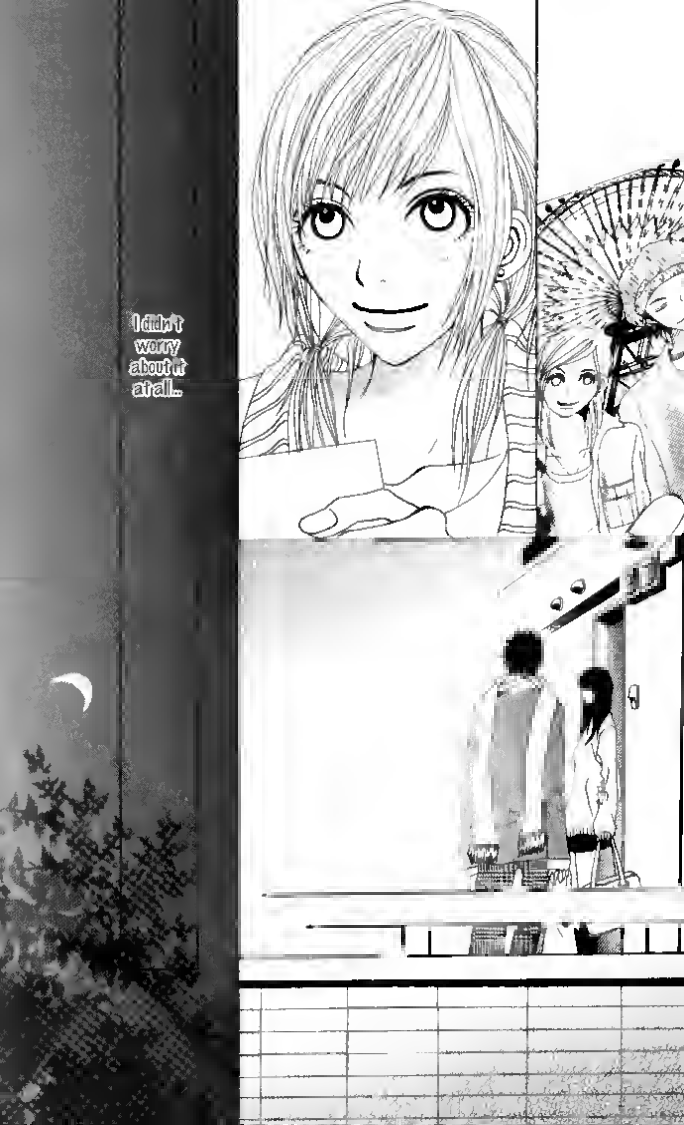
YOU NEED NOT WORRY, MISS, I WILL ASK YOU AGAIN.
PLEASE DO, SIR.
Thank you very much.
ENA, YOU IDIOT! DON'T RUIN OTHER PEOPLE'S RELATIONSHIPS!!
WHAT? ... ANYWAY, WE'RE IN A REALLY GOOD PLACE RIGHT NOW,
SO DON'T GET IN THE WAY, GOT IT?
beep

When I got back home, as per usual, my mom and dad pretended to be on good terms.
I went up to my room, like I always do.
And.
...for some reason, the guy I went out with for a bit in middle school came to mind.

KANORI!
Ding dong
MY PARENTS WENT OUT AGAIN, SO SINCE I HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO, I THOUGHT I'D COME OVER.
I know I'm so pathetic...
YOUR PARENTS ARE OUT, TOO, RIGHT?
The car is not there.
CAN I COME IN?
AH...
SORRY.
IS THIS A BAD TIME?
UH... YEAH...
SORRY.

I saw them holding hands when they turned the corner and thought I couldn't see.
But I didn't worry about it.

EH?
AH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, KAZUMI-CHAN?
DO YOU NOT
REMEMBER ME?


I didn't worry about it at all...

あのコと緒

I'm With Her

Arimoto Issho

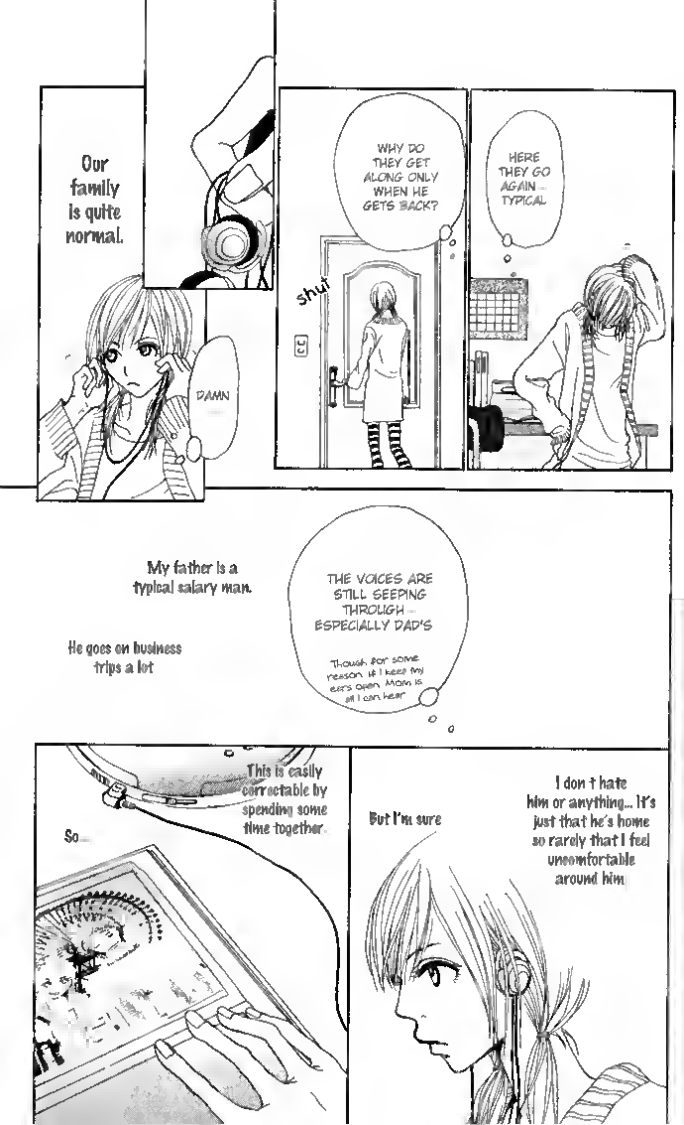
scene three

side by side

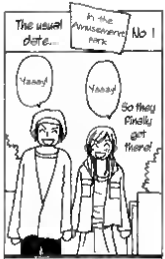
DID YOU...
...FORGET ABOUT ME ALREADY,
KOTA-KUN?
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, WE...

For some reason...
that trivial, little thing that I would usually ignore...
The words that Sakagami said,
"HE WAS SITTING SOMEWHERE ELSE AT FIRST."
but they keep replaying in my head.
I don't know why,

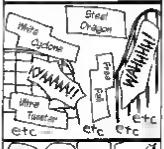
Here you go
HE EVEN PASSED ME THE CHOP-STICKS...
Yeah, that's right!
KOTA WAS SITTING NEXT TO ME RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING
BUT I'M PRETTY SURE ABOUT IT
THEN... WHY DID SAKAGAMI LIE TO ME?
WAS IT A MISTAKE? BUT SHE WAS SO SURE
CLATTER


Our family is quite normal.
DAMN
shut
WHY DO THEY GET ALONG ONLY WHEN HE GETS BACK?
HERE THEY GO AGAIN... TYPICAL
My father is a typical salary man.
He goes on business trips a lot
THE VOICES ARE STILL SEEPING THROUGH... ESPECIALLY DAD'S
Though for some reason, if I keep my ears open, Mom is all I can hear
This is easily correctable by spending some time together.
So...
But I'm sure
I don't hate him or anything... It's just that he's home so rarely that I feel uncomfortable around him.

PUSH
...when we're together
I try to act normal
UMM
SORRY I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER YOU
HA HA HA HA!!
YOU'RE SO FUNNY!
FOR A MOMENT THERE, YOUR FACE JUST SCREAMED "SHIT"!!
UH



Those wishing to ride the most Frantic rollercoasters can purchase an all-day pass which costs around forty dollars. (By the way, Fujiwa can't take such rides at all... In fact, all Japan can be divided just by this.)



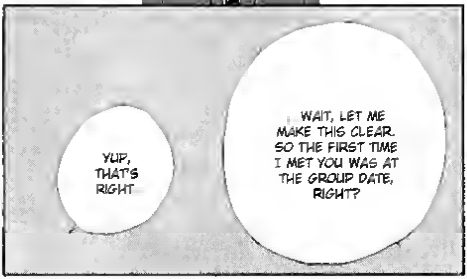
Round-trip bus fare: ¥17... 2 meals and tea: ¥820. Games: ¥0

Total: ¥837

Yet pricey.

Good luck, high-schoolers!

HA HA! YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER ALL YOUR GIRLFRIENDS' FACES?
ERR
NO
HUH?
DID YOU THINK I WAS ONE OF THE GIRLS YOU DATED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?

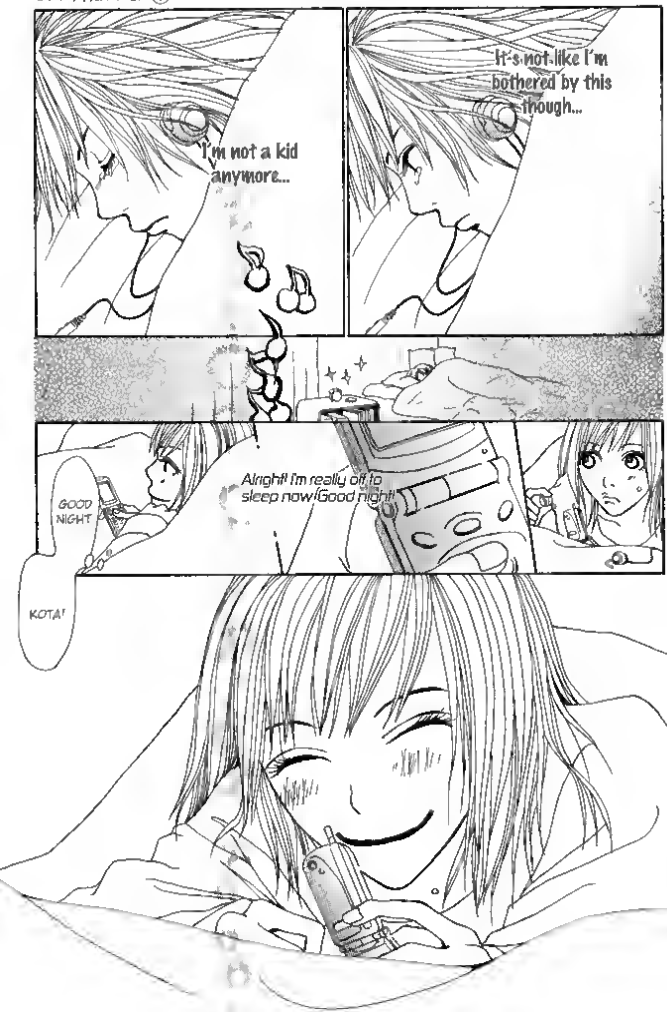


I HEARD THAT YOU WERE QUITE A PLAYER IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, SO I THOUGHT I'D CHECK IF IT'S TRUE.
Did Ena tell her?
JOKING AROUND LIKE THIS IS A REALLY DIRTY HOBBY
KAZUMI-CHAN,
AND IT SEEMS IT IS...
It was a joke

Shojo
http://shojo.atspace.com

NOTHING MUCH I JUST WANTED TO TALK A BIT
CAN YOU SPEAK NOW?
AH... NOW?
Now is not good You see some friends came over I'll call you later
SHH!
AH, IT'S OKAY I JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOUR VOICE
I'M NOT GOOD AT THE ADVICE THING I CAN LISTEN IF YOU WANT THOUGH
AOHOO!!
beep
OKAY
YEAH
GOOD NIGHT
REALLY? YOU WILL LISTEN TO ME? YOU'RE SO GREAT!
Oh, excuse me
RUSTLE

I DON'T REALLY LIKE COFFEE
...?
TAKE IT, IT'LL WARM YOU UP
AH...
IT'S KINDA LATE WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME AND CALL ME WHEN YOU GET BACK WE CAN TALK THEN.
THANK YOU...
"I JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOUR VOICE"? WHAT THE HELL? SOUNDED LIKE SOME MAIDEN IN LOVE
ARE THEY STILL AT IT?
HOW LONG ARE THEY GOING TO KEEP THIS UP?
IT'S NOISY
Geez


I'm not a kid anymore...
It's not like I'm bothered by this though...
Alright! I'm really off to sleep now! Good night!
GOOD NIGHT
KOTA!

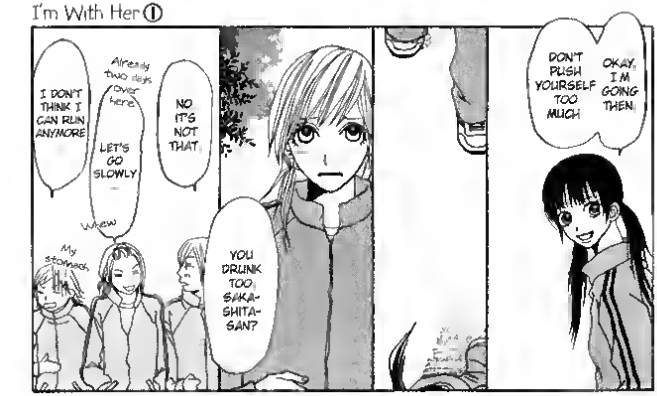
Kota...
1—2
MORNING!
MORNING, KANORI!
LET'S GO
IS THIS FOR SUCH YOUNG GIRLS TO SAY?
Get changed this instant
P.E. RIGHT IN THE MORNING IS TOO HARD, TEACHER...
Spare us please!
*Oral Communication
OH MY GOD an interview
chatter
chatter
chatter
SOMEONE SAID WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN OC* INTERVIEW TODAY
WHAT? REALLY?
NO WAY!!
Girls' Changing

fuss
fuss
YOU'RE BEING A BIT TOO BOLD!!
SAKA-GAMI-SAAAN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Please don't leave va uable things inside
LOOK AT THAT! HICKEYS!!
WHOA...
YEAH, I'M NOT GOOD AT THOSE EITHER
NO WAY... WHAT AM I GOING TO TALK ABOUT...
"I HEAR KOTA-KUN WAS QUITE A PLAYER..."
"DON'T TELL KAZUMI!"
"PLEASE!"
"I'M SERIOUS WITH HER!"
DON'T THINK THAT WE'RE JEALOUS, We're not dezeerame or anything!
She looks happy,
and if it's going well for them...
who am I to butt in?
Let me smell
No way!

Sakagami said that because she meant good for me, didn't she?
Whirr
Inside
I MADE SURE MYSELF YESTERDAY...
THAT RUMOR WAS TRUE AFTER ALL...
HEY, KANORI
DON'T WALK!!
HUH?
THAT WAS A BIT SURPRISING, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD LET IT BOTHER YOU..
AH... YEAH. Thanks.
HE'S SO KIND, ISN'T HE? THE THING IS, HE COULD BE KIND TO EVERYONE
Rather than being troubled about that,
I'm more worried...

...about how to face her..
how to tell her
SAKAGAMI
HM?
...YOU KNOW, I...
I SAW ENA-KUN WALKING AROUND WITH ANOTHER GIRL...
"He's two-timing you."
"You should watch out."
YOU SHOULD WATCH—
I REALLY, REALLY LIKE ENA-KUN
I KNOW! THAT'S WHY I'M TELLING YOU THIS
SO PLEASE KANORI

DON'T TALK BAD ABOUT HIM.
ARE YOU OKAY? CAN YOU WALK? SHOULD I GO TELL THE TEACHER?
...I THINK I FEEL A BIT SICK...
WHAT'S WRONG?
I'LL BE OKAY AS LONG AS I TAKE IT EASY. YOU GO ON AHEAD.
I'LL STAY WITH YOU.
NO, YOU GO. SHE'S TIMING US. I'M ALL RIGHT.

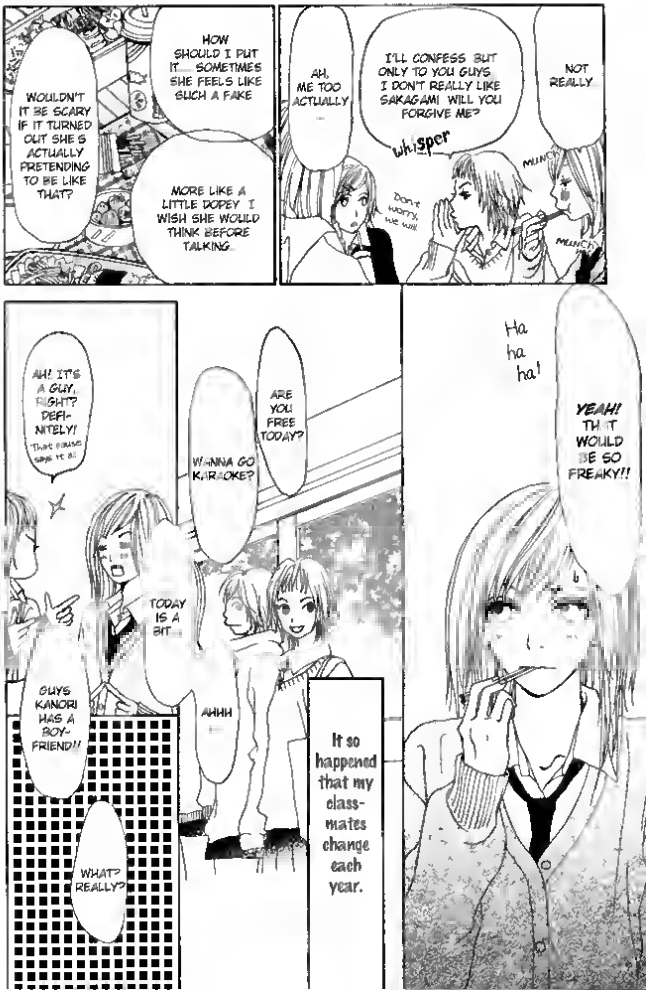

I DON'T THINK I CAN RUN ANYMORE
Already two days over here.
LET'S GO SLOWLY
NO IT'S NOT THAT
Whew
My stomach
YOU DRUNK TOO, SAKASHITA-SAN?
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO MUCH
OKAY, I'M GOING THEN

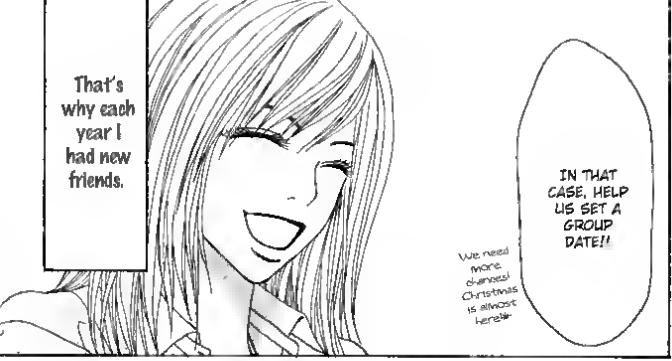
I always thought that the reason I couldn't get someone to understand me was because there weren't enough words to express myself
You're so cruel !!
Just run and you'll be fine.
TEACHER, I DON'T THINK I CAN FINISH
Eh? Where's Kanon?
Tch!
HEY YOU OVER THERE DON'T WALK!

ARE YOU OKAY?
KANON!
Sometimes I still feel uneasy about it.

I'M FINE.
THE DRINKS OVER THERE ARE RESTING.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A BREAK, TOO KANORI?
SAKAGAMI.
SHUT UP. YOU'RE ANNOYING.
I even had this thought others could feel it.
SOR-RY

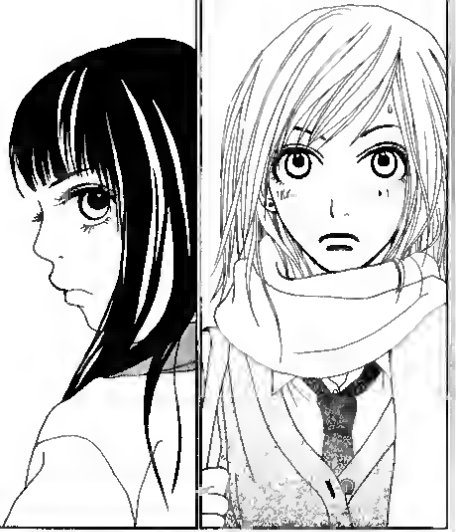
ding dong
1-2
I AM SO HUNGRY
I WANT TO SLEEP
Let's go buy something
CLUNK
CAN I EAT WITH YOU GUYS?
SURE.
KANOE!
YOU'RE ALONE! COME OVER HERE!
WHAT'S WRONG? DID YOU TWO HAVE A FIGHT?
WOOF!
CLUNK
Pardon the intrusion!
Lunch


It so happened that my classmates change each year.
AHHH...
TODAY IS A BIT...
WANNA GO KARAOKE?
ARE YOU FREE TODAY?
AH! IT'S A GUY, RIGHT? DEFINITELY!
That doesn't sound like it at all
GUYS KANORI HAS A BOYFRIEND!!
WHAT? REALLY?
Ha ha ha!
YEAH! THAT WOULD BE SO FREAKY!!
WOULDN'T IT BE SCARY IF IT TURNED OUT SHE'S ACTUALLY PRETENDING TO BE LIKE THAT?
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT... SOMETIMES SHE FEELS LIKE SUCH A FAKE
MORE LIKE A LITTLE DOPEY I WISH SHE WOULD THINK BEFORE TALKING...
AH, ME TOO ACTUALLY...
I'LL CONFESS BUT ONLY TO YOU GUYS I DON'T REALLY LIKE SAKAGAMI WILL YOU FORGIVE ME?
whisper
Don't worry, we will!
NOT REALLY
MUM
MUMUR



*Note: In Japan, rather than being a Catholic holiday, Christmas is a day for couples

YES-TER-DAY
EXACTLY LIKE LAST TIME
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! HOW ARE YOUR PRACTICES GOING?
I
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ALL THE EXCUSES AND LIES.
She was my best friend
And although we went out for only a little while,
she knew I really liked him.
WHEN YOU CAME OVER YOU NOTICED, DIDN'T YOU?
Was it a misunder-standing, or did she do it on purpose...
I didn't get the chance to find out.
STARTING TOMORROW, I THINK WE SHOULD STOP GOING TO SCHOOL TOGETHER
LISTEN KANON!

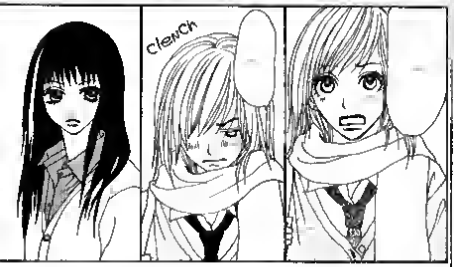


Ever since then...

No matter how many other friends I find,

even though I don't want to,

I keep remembering her...



SAKAGAMI

I WAS REALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU SAID I WAS YOUR BEST FRIEND
YOU KNOW I...
...DID I SAY SUCH A THING?
DAMN!
DAMN, DAMN, DAMN!!
SO ANNOYING!!

DAD IS COMING HOME TONIGHT, SO DON'T STAY OUT TOO LONG.
...
OKAAAY!
AH, MOM! ...YEAH, JUST FOR A MEAL, THOUGH.
ARE YOU GOING OUT?
KA-NORI
HUH?
The phone you have called
is either turned off
KANORI-CHAN!
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

Calling Yuya Eria
.. or in a place
ENA-KUN...
..there is no con-nec-tion..
ARE YOU WAITING FOR KOTA?
I BELIEVE YOU CAN STAY QUIET
SORRY PLEASE LET THIS SLIP!
Who is she?
peer
THAT'S RIGHT
TO BE FRANK... DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO BE BOUND BY ONE PERSON?
I DO BUT--
OF COURSE I LIKE HER
--ISN'T SAKAGAMI THE ONE YOU LIKE?

"I...
...REALLY, REALLY LIKE ENA-KUN."
SORRY AGAIN
SAY HI TO KOTA FOR ME
Though I see him at school everyday

...
...ST...

Why did she get so mad?
WOW. SO SCARY
Stop fucking around with me, Ena!!
... they've gotten too tantalizing!
The feelings that I can't express ...

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR GIRLS,
BUT IF YOU MAKE HER CRY, YOU'LL SERIOUSLY REGRET IT
PISSED
KANORI
flinch
...
WILL YOU START DOUBTING
...
...ME, TOO NOW?

YOU PROBABLY HEARD FROM KAZUMI-CHAN...
YEAH, I DID
I HEARD BUT...
WE DON'T CARE ABOUT THE PAST, RIGHT?

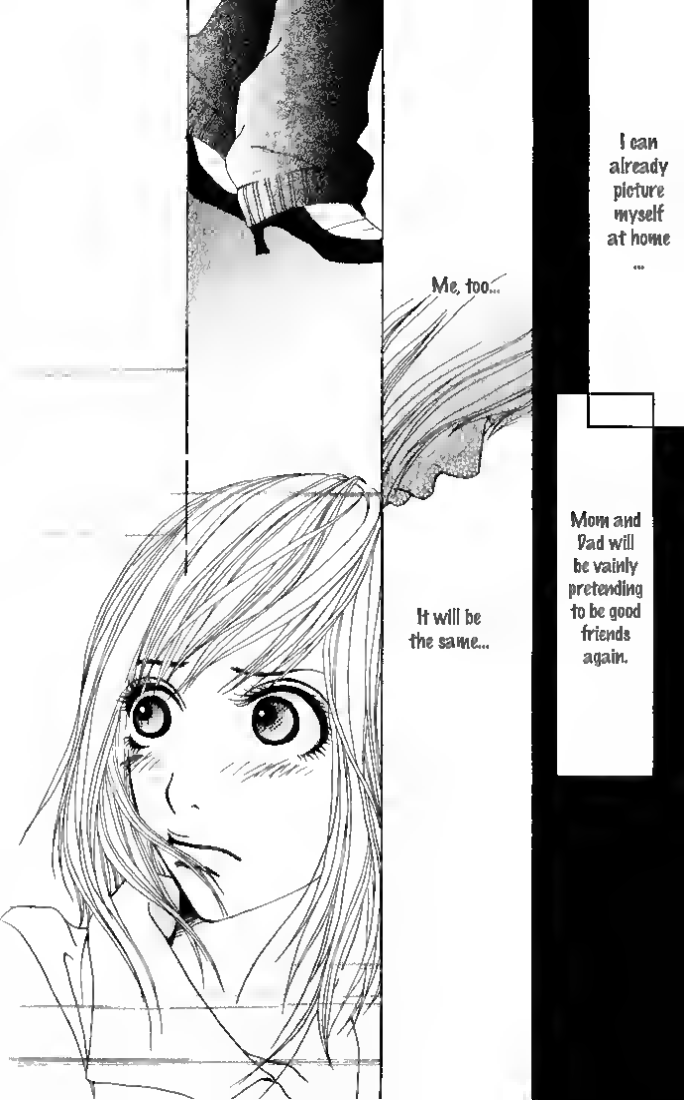
AFTER ALL, YOU STARTED LIKING BECAUSE OF HOW I AM NOW, RIGHT?

WELL,
SAME GOES FOR ME
THAT'S QUITE OBVIOUS.
SQUEEEEEZE
HA HA HA!
It's a lie.
I'm worried after all.

Shojo
http://shojo.alspace.com

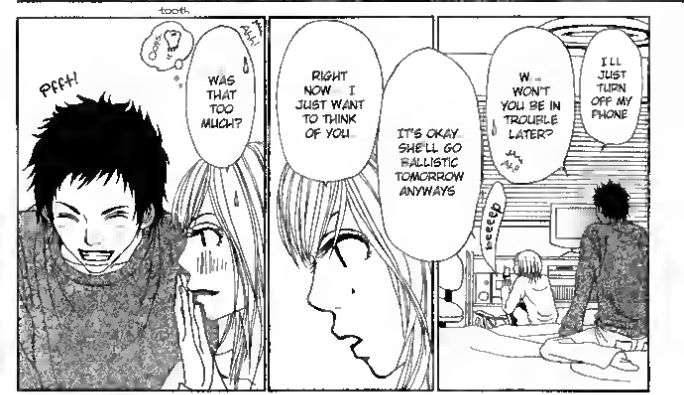
ONE DAY ENA AND I JUST GOT THIS BOOST OF CONFIDENCE AND THEN IT ALL STARTED--
...IT WASN'T LIKE PLAYING AROUND...
I'm still worried about when he's going to...
Even if we fall crazy in love...

...find the real Kanori in me.
FOR THE TIME BEING...
AS PER MY PROMISE
DO YOU WISH TO GO TO MY PLACE?
I CAN'T BE TOO LATE TO .
Uhh...
OKAY, I UNDERSTAND.
It's the same reason as last time.
Sorry for bothering you with this.
EVEN IF WE GO RIGHT NOW, YOU'D PROBABLY STILL MISS THE LAST TRAIN.
WELL THEN BYE
YEAH, BYE


I can already picture myself at home ...
Mom and Dad will be vainly pretending to be good friends again.
Me, too...
It will be the same...

KOTA!!
I'LL GO!
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
"YUP! THAT'S RIGHT!"
"WE'RE BEST FRIENDS!"

Thank you
SHE REMEMBERED
...SUCH LITTLE THING I SAID IN THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT
MAIL?
IT'S PROBABLY MOM


tooth.
PFFT!
WAS THAT TOO MUCH?
RIGHT NOW... I JUST WANT TO THINK OF YOU...
IT'S OKAY... SHE'LL GO BALLISTIC TOMORROW ANYWAYS
W... WON'T YOU BE IN TROUBLE LATER?
I'LL JUST TURN OFF MY PHONE
beeeep

THINK ABOUT ME...
EVEN MORE
The beginning of the winter of my first year in high-school.
The warmth of our naked bodies glued together.
I LOVE YOU.
MM
It was an irreplaceable feeling.

I REALLY LOVE YOU
Without a thought, it was all that I needed.
For the first time in my life
I came to know the happiness of having met a person who

accepted my feelings in all fullness.

Sometimes along with drawing manga, I do some other works
Actually, I had some side jobs even when I started doing "I'm With Her." Since you're already reading this, I might as well talk about it more .

The top two pictures are very recent
Both of them are backgrounds for phones. I drew these for this adorable fashion magazine for girls called "junie."
As I thought, I love everything that's cute.

Fusosha junie 2004 June issue

This one on the left was drawn for the cover of VodaFone's advertisement leaflet.
I know, I do lots of things for phones.
I also got to draw some simple stuff for the actual leaflet. It was distributed all over the country in VodaFone and HMV shops up until the spring of 2004.

VodaFone corporation "Be Happy"

Although I was really happy to draw something that even people who don't read manga would see, it kind of made me realize my situation. I started thinking to myself, "Ahhh... I must try harder"...

HEY...
HM?
WHAT IS IT?
HNN... NEVER MIND, IT'S NOTHING.
WHAT IS IT?!
NO, REALLY, IT'S NOTHING...
COME ON, TELL ME!!
HA HA HA HA!!
Yet again...
...I can't get him...

あのコと一緒

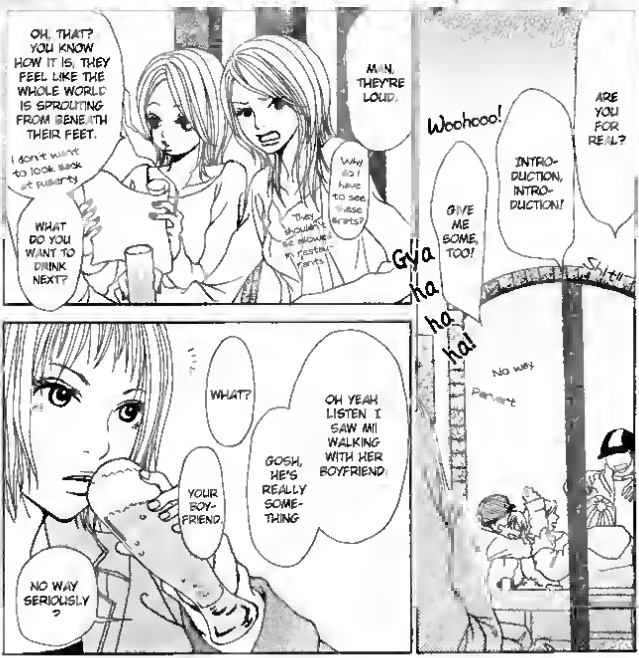
I'm With Her

Anokotoissho

scene zero

balance

HA HA HA HA HA


OH, THAT? YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, THEY FEEL LIKE THE WHOLE WORLD IS SPROUTING FROM BENEATH THEIR FEET.
I don't want to look back at puberty!
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DRINK NEXT?
MAN, THEY'RE LOUD.
Why do I have to see these brats?
They shouldn't be allowed in fashionable places!
Woohooo!
ARE YOU FOR REAL?
INTRO-DUCTION, INTRO-DUCTION!
GIVE ME SOME, TOO!
G'ya ha ha ha!
No way Pervert
WHAT?
OH YEAH LISTEN I SAW MI WALKING WITH HER BOYFRIEND.
GOSH, HE'S REALLY SOME-THING
YOUR BOY-FRIEND.
NO WAY SERIOUSLY ?

Shojo
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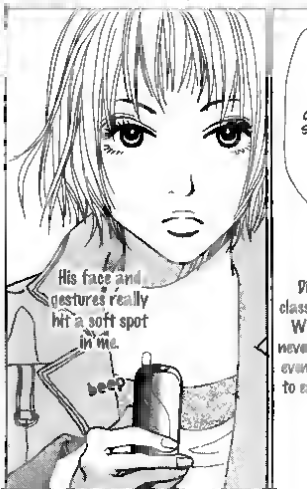
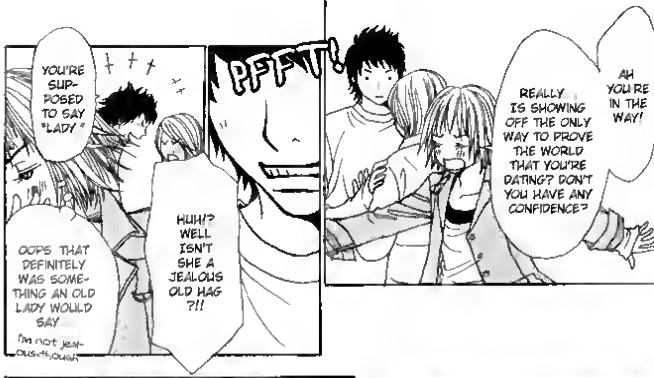
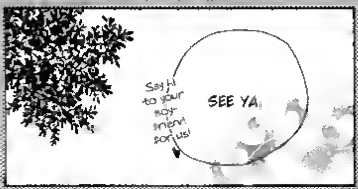

His face and gestures really hit a soft spot in me.
beep
GOT IT. SEE YA.
Different classes though. We almost never talked or even said hello to each other.

But I couldn't seem to get close.
So on the last day of school
I decided to throw away all my shyness and confessed to him
UGH...
MID-TERMS? HIGH SCHOOL KIDS?
LIAR I KNOW YOU WERE GOOFING OFF
chuckle
crackle
Hmm
Aff+!
Heart beat ever so steady
Hey! Don't make out in a place like this!
HOW DID YOUR MID TERMS GO?
HMM, SO-SO.
I'LL... I'LL PASS EXCUSE ME
WAIT. WHY MUST I FEEL EMBARRASSED IN THIS SITUATION?


AH YOU'RE IN THE WAY!
REALLY IS SHOWING OFF THE ONLY WAY TO PROVE THE WORLD THAT YOU'RE DATING? DON'T YOU HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE?
PFFT!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY "LADY"
HUH!? WELL ISN'T SHE A JEALOUS OLD HAG ?!!
OOPS THAT DEFINITELY WAS SOMETHING AN OLD LADY WOULD SAY
I'm not jealous-oh...ouch!

MII, GOING TO YOUR BOYFRIEND'S?
I SEE THEN, WHAT'LL WE DO?
YEAH
AH, THERE'S A PLACE I WANT TO GO
A Senpai from my seminar is working there.
OKAY
There isn't so many...


SEE YA
Say hi to your boyfriend for us!

WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO NEXT?
So I confessed my love on the day of the graduation ceremony.

Two years have passed since we began going out.

Alright, the following is the story behind the making of this book. Although it's not really a big deal or anything.

• • • • • • • • • •

Sometimes I get asked, "Do you really draw alone?" Well, to answer the question, it's PiPy-PiPy. Sometimes my assistant comes over, sometimes she doesn't. I was really in her debt when we were drawing "Sentimental Gold" though.

I'm drawing "I'm With Her" alone now, but my older sister occasionally adds tones, draws the backgrounds and cleans them. Thank you, sis.

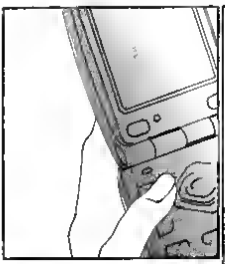
• • • • • • • • • •

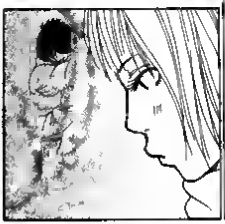
About "Sentimental Gold"...

Certainly, this was really printed in a magazine called "A Night With My BoyFriend." When it comes to one-shots, rather than thinking of a story that would fit the topic given, I choose a story that I actually want to draw. Of course, I stay close to the topic. If I remember correctly, the first topic I got as a mangaka was "sexy boys". I hadn't debuted in Betsuma at that time yet. But to tell the truth, there was such a time in Betsuma, too. I remember it well even now.

← Continued

I bought some beer recently, so there still should be some left.
SOMETHING SOUR THEN AND AH SOME SNACKS
Rummy
BEEP
AH, TAKE-CHAN
I'M ON MY WAY...
Sorry Mil.
Some friends came over
Remember? The ones from before.
We're about to go out
Were you already nearby?
AH... NOT YET
I'm in front of the subway





Does he know how much I wanted to see him?

OKAY. GOT IT.

AH WELL

YEAH

SEE YA

Thank goodness.

Shall I call you when I get home?

NO, THAT'S FINE. I'LL PROBABLY BE SLEEPING.

NO USE. I CAN'T CONNECT

I SHOULD'VE ASKED WHERE THEY WERE GOING

CAN'T HELP IT. I'LL JUST QUIETLY GO HOME

Hey, where are you, Ammura?

Beep

...The phone you are trying to reach...

Damn

I really needed to get laid

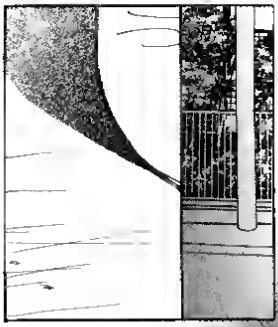
Well, it's all for the best I guess
Today...
DON'T THINK THAT DEEP DON'T THINK THAT DEEP!
Meow!
"SORRY. SOME FRIENDS CAME OVER."
HE SURE SAID THAT BEFORE.
the underwear wasn't right.
MEOW !!!
Meow!
Meow!
MEOW!
Meow♥

It's those annoying guys from the restaurant earlier
HEY, LAAADY!
MEOW!
Meow!
Meow!
SCA. SCARY
JUST DON'T GIVE THEM ANYTHING...
They obviously think they're the best!
Slip away
slip away
Cuuuute!
Ah, she's leaving
Ah, it's the lady
Hm?
WHAT? YOU KNOW HER?
Relative? Friend?
EH? AHH... I DON'T KNOW HER NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW HER...
AH, THE COUPLE FROM EARLIER
RIGHT?
Huh?
Couple
(Were kissing)

SAY HI TO TAKE-CHAN!
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NOW?
REALLY, NO INTEGRITY AT ALL...
what's with you?
It's nothing.
Shhh
AHH... see.
WHAT ABOUT YOU KOTA?
I'LL PROBABLY GO HOME
THEN I WILL TOO. I'm kinda sleepy
AHH... DID HE HEAR ME ON THE PHONE...?

clank
clank
160 Yen
200 Yen
Some friends came over
We're about to go out
0 Yen
200 Yen
clank
clank
Ah...
Does he really...
UM
BUT BECAUSE IT ALL ENDS TODAY
YOU CAN FORGET THIS IF YOU WANT I JUST REALLY WANT TO SAY IT
UM
YOU... YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ME

TAKEUCHI-KUN...
I LIKE YOU!!
SEE YA!! HAVE A NICE DAY!!
Kyaaa
I really said it! To a guy!
...THAT'S IT?
DID YOU DECIDE WHERE TO STUDY ALREADY?
EH...?
...UH, XX UNIVERSITY.
I LIVE NEAR THERE.
DO YOU NOT WANT TO GO OUT WITH ME?
AH... THE CONFESSION.
I MEAN, THAT MADE ME SO HAPPY, BUT YOU RAN AWAY LIKE THAT...
I simply pretended in front of my friends.
And all these awkward emotions flooded me with those words.



Seeing me like this Take-chan told me, "I hit a spot, didn't I?"

That day's incident lingered for a little while between the two of us.

I guess the graduation atmosphere got to do in this, too

I couldn't stop crying.

I'll just fall into "that feeling" again...
I'M USELESS
BUT WHAT IF I FIND OUT IT'S TRUE...?
SHOULD I CALL HIM?
Maybe he's sleeping.
Is it someone?
I still can't resolve it.
It's still too early
WHAT AM I DOING?
I'M SUCH A USELESS PERSON
SO...

clunk
clunk
Ha Ha Ha
SERIOUSLY? THEY DID? THERE WAS ONLY THIS ONE TIME SCAAARY
I HEARD THE SENPAIS FROM SCHOOL WERE LOOKING FOR YOU TODAY
LOOK WHO'S TALKING !!
Lower your voice
SHE WAS THE ONE TO CALL ME DON'T YOU DARE TELL ANYONE THOUGH...
Demon
KOTA
DID YOU DO IT WITH SENPAI'S CHICK?
I wanna do it, too
SINCE WHEN? LUCKY
THOUGH IT'S ONLY A SHABBY APARTMENT IN THE SCHOOL'S JURISDICTION
Well it's still home
WOW, REALLY?
OH, THAT REMINDS ME I DECIDED TO START LIVING ALONE
Guys, stop it! I'm serious
KO-TA-KUN
grab
LEND ME THE ROOM SOME TIMES.
1500 YEN AN HOUR.
SINCE SPRING BREAK, RIGHT BEFORE THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY
AHHH
I'LL FINALLY BE FREE FROM THAT SUF-FOCATING HOUSE

You an idiot? If I had that kinda money I would've bought a house!
Ah, a knife.
(Yuki Amino, long talk, I promise)
whisper
whisper
whisper
It's like I'm still unsatisfied to go home.
For some reason...
COLD
swipe
SEE YA, ENA LATER.
OH, SEE YA TOMOR-ROW
HUH?
Eeh...?

HEY, LADY.
YOU'RE NOT CRYING

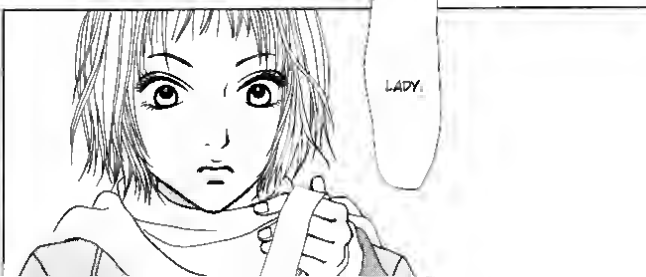
Huh?
STILL EARLY, HUH? ...WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR DATE? HA HA...
AH
Ahh this is bad!
I BET I LOOK LIKE I'M ABOUT TO CRY
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
HM? WHAT?
What's with this moment?
GOOD-BYE
I...
I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE SAY "IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS."

TAKE-CHAN, WHEN YOU WENT OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS, WHERE DID YOU DRINK?
HUH?
WHY DO YOU ASK THAT?
Ah, what? You don't trust me?
IT'S LIKE I DON'T EXIST FOR SUCH PEOPLE
That's depressing
THOSE WORDS CREATE A WALL
"TAKE-CHAN"
MAN, WHY'S HE TELLING ME THIS?
IT'S NOTHING
JUST CURIOUS
HMM WE WENT TO VARIOUS PLACES. SO I DON'T REMEMBER.
We were drunk
THANKS
ANYWAYS IT'S REALLY NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
Taublet Seems like Takeuchi-kun was spotted at a love hotel!!!

SEE YA.
AH
IF YOU HADN'T CALLED OUT TO ME I WOULD'VE RIDDEN THE TRAIN WITH THIS FACE
THANK YOU... VERY MUCH
WAIT... YOU'RE NOT GOING HOME YET?
IT'S QUITE LATE AREN'T YOU GOING TO BE YELLED AT LATER?
You're here.
I DON'T WANT TO WASTE MY PHONE MEMORY LIKE THIS
ASKING YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS JUST LIKE SAYING HELLO
EH? NO WAY
TELL ME YOUR EMAIL
THEN I'LL TELL YOU MINE
I TOLD YOU. IT'S OKAY
BECAUSE I WON'T SEE YOU AGAIN
WHY NOT?

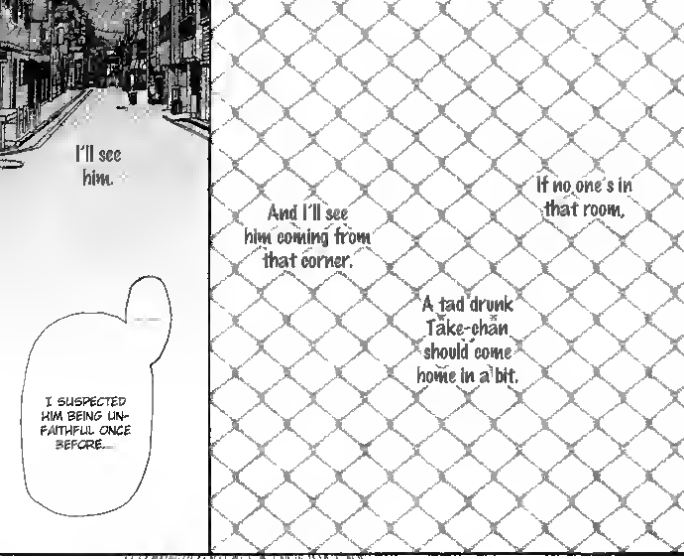
I won't ask again if
NOT REALLY
THEN
WANNA HANG OUT FOR A BIT?
IF THAT'S OKAY.

MA'A..


LADY.

WH...IT'S THIS...?
A STAKE-OUT.
AS A GUY YOU SHOULD WANT TO TRY THIS OUT AT LEAST ONCE RIGHT?
Nice ass, eh.
I HAD A STRANGE FEELING ABOUT THIS...
BUT...
STALK-ING...
SHIH!
YOU'RE IDIOT HERE GO THAT PEOPLE WOULDN'T THINK IT'S LIKE THIS
We look like a couple.
Eh
Swish
I'M LEA...
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW FOR SURE GO BY HIS PLACE.
You're his girlfriend right?
NO, NO! IF I DO THAT, HE'LL KNOW I DISTRUST HIM.
BUT YOU DO
YEAH BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO FIND THAT OUT.
Hunh?

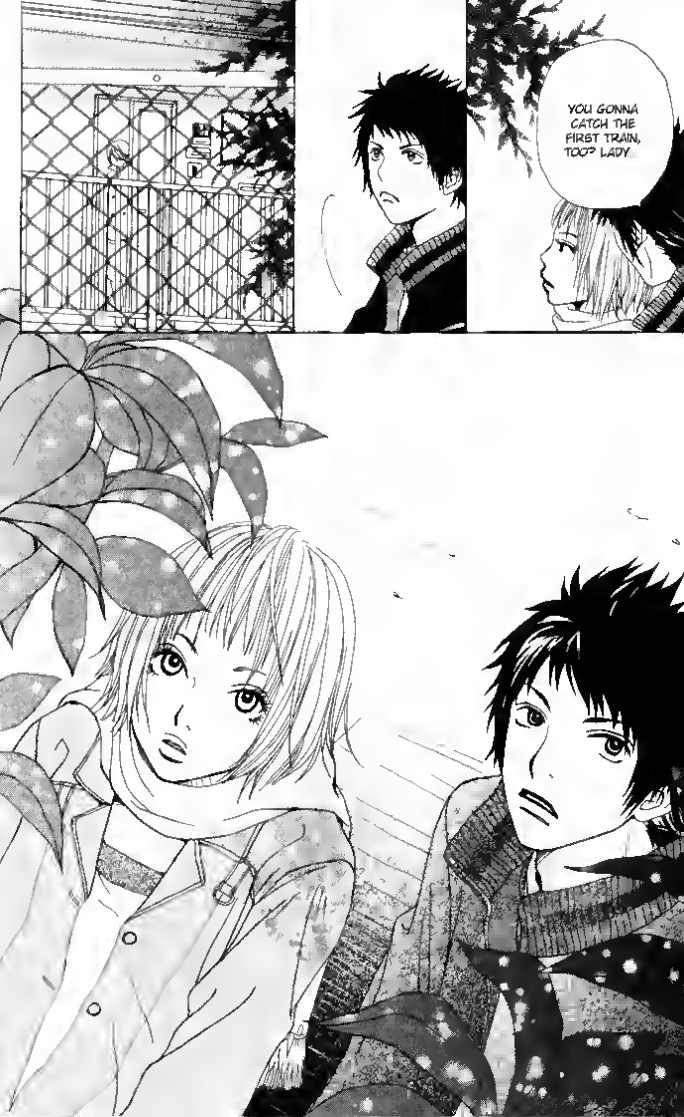
I GUESS THIS IS AN INTERESTING WAY TO KILL TIME
kshh
If I get sleepy I'll just go home
SO? IF YOUR BOYFRIEND'S LYING, WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO? BREAK UP?
THANKS
rustle
HAH
I DON'T GET HER
Munch
TEA?
I'M THINK-ING ABOUT THAT NOW
Ah, cheers
Cheers
OH WELL


I'll see him.
And I'll see him coming from that corner.
If no one's in that room,
A tad drunk Take-chan should come home in a bit.
I SUSPECTED HIM BEING UNFAITHFUL ONCE BEFORE...

YOU CAN TALK TO ME BECAUSE I'M A STRANGER.
NO IT'S ALL RIGHT WELL... IT'S LIKE
OH, WAIT? DO YOU HATE "LIFE STORIES"?
IS SO I'LL STOP
Hmm
THAT'S HOW I NOTICED HE SLEPT WITH ANOTHER GIRL
munch munch
(already the 2nd one)
SO MINE CAUGHT A SLIGHT CHANGE IN TAKE'S BODY...
Oh, wow
Are we gonna watch this stupid?
YOU SEE IN THE END, OUR BODY KNOWS ITS PARTNER'S BODY BY HEART.
ANYWAYS, ONE DAY, I UNDERSTOOD SOMETHING AMAZING...

AND DID YOU FIND EVIDENCE?
chuckle
LOTS OF
VARIOUS LOVE ♥ MESSAGES ON HIS CELL PHONE
COULDN'T HE HIDE THE EVIDENCE BETTER?
I'm pitiful
THE THOUGHT JUST COULDN'T LEAVE MY HEAD
SO I STARTED SPYING HIM AND STUFF.
Spy no. 1
I THEN REALIZED THAT BY DOING SUCH THINGS I'M ONLY MAKING MYSELF SUFFER
I LIKED HIM, SO I COULDN'T BREAK UP WITH HIM.
THAT KIND OF THING IS BAD
I DON'T GET IT. WHY DO YOU STILL WANT TO BE WITH HIM IF HE MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE THIS?
WHO KNOWS
Sigh
YOU SHOULD MOVE ON
Do it so it!
OR YOU SHOULD JUST BE UNFAITHFUL TOO!!

shove
I'LL GET MAD.
DAMN!
IT'S ALMOST SUNRISE ALREADY
LADY, I'M GOING HOME.
YOU SITTING NEXT TO ME IS ENOUGH!
DIDN'T YOU SAY WE SHOULD PRETEND TO BE A COUPLE?


YOU GONNA CATCH THE FIRST TRAIN, TOO? LADY

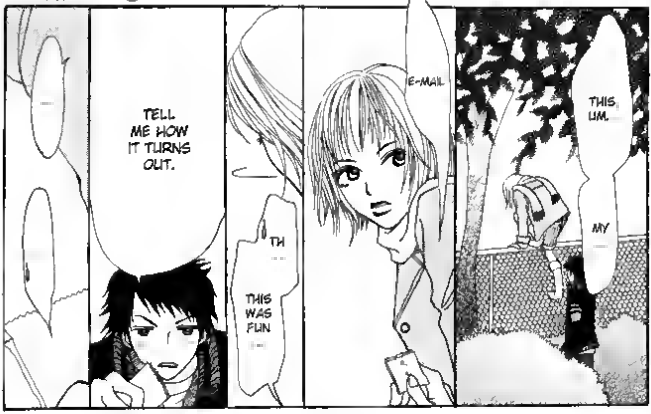
OH MY
HE'S PROBABLY WALKING HER TO THE STATION.
clank
clank
clank
clank
YOU KNOW, THE PHRASE "WALK SOMEONE TO THE STATION" CAN ALSO MEAN "WANT TO STAY TOGETHER FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER," TOO
HUH?
NEVER MIND
It was still so early.
Ahh
Ahh
Ahh
Ahhh
Ahhhhh
AHHH. I GOT MY EVIDENCE AT LAST.

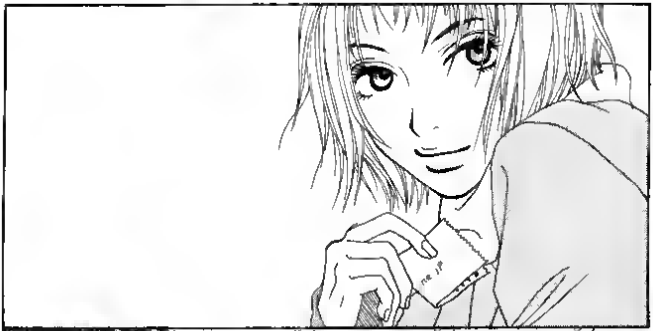
...I...
...I wasn't ready for this yet...
THIS ...

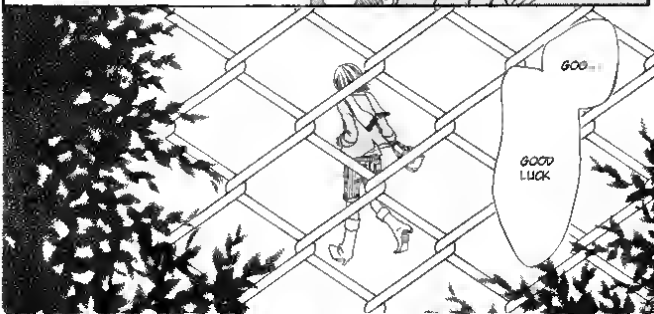
Shojo
http://shojo.stspace.com

INSTEAD OF PUTTING UP WITH ALL OF THIS, YOU SHOULD TAKE ACTION
BUT I THINK...
HEY... THIS KIND OF GIRL PICK-UP IS THE WORST...
I DON'T REALLY GET THIS EITHER...
confused

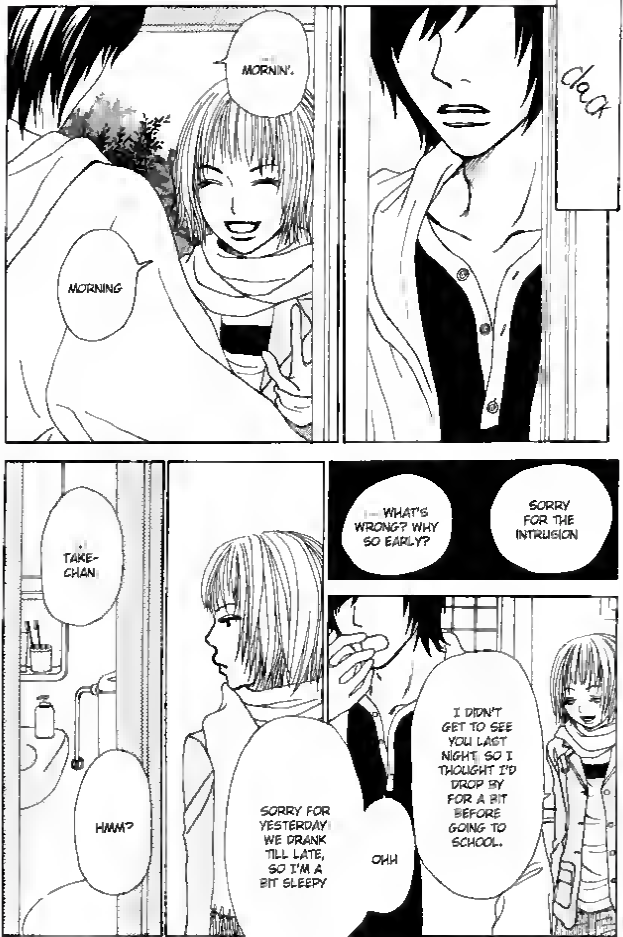
...
AH...!

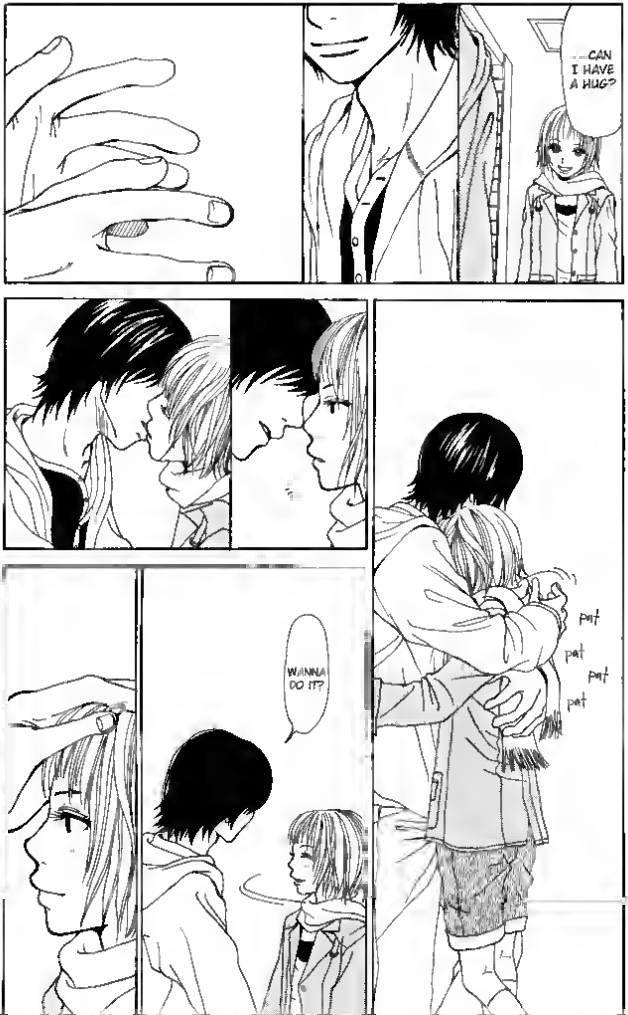

TELL ME HOW IT TURNS OUT.
TH...
THIS WAS FUN.
E-MAIL.
THIS, UM...
MY




GOO...
GOOD LUCK

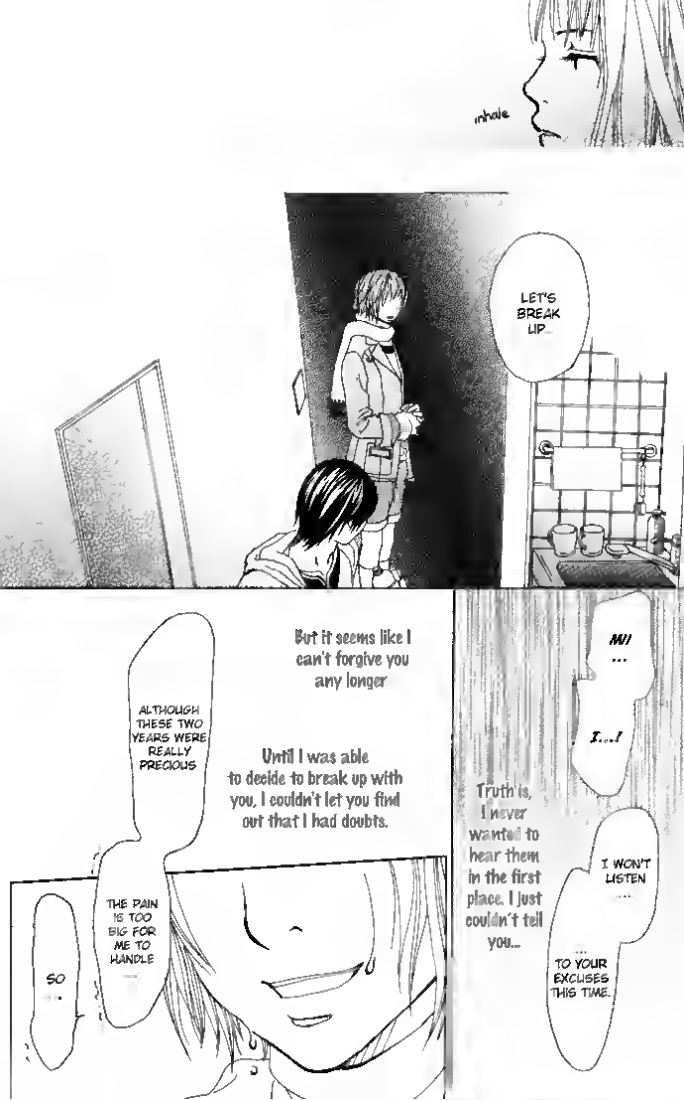
clank
clank
clank
clank
SHALL I GO HOME AND SLEEP A BIT?
AHH... I'M SUDDENLY SLEEPY.
sigh
When a person decides to move on
Somehow his shallow side suddenly shows itself
ding
doooong


clack
MORNIN'.
MORNING
SORRY FOR THE INTRUSION
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY SO EARLY?
I DIDN'T GET TO SEE YOU LAST NIGHT, SO I THOUGHT I'D DROP BY FOR A BIT BEFORE GOING TO SCHOOL.
OHH
SORRY FOR YESTERDAY WE DRANK TILL LATE, SO I'M A BIT SLEEPY
TAKE-CHAN
HMM?


...CAN I HAVE A HUG?
pat
pat
pat
pat
WANNA DO IT?

Shojo
http://shojo.atspace.com

SHE COMES TO YOUR ROOM SOME-TIMES, RIGHT? EVEN THOUGH YOU TOLD ME DIFFERENTLY.
FOR EXAMPLE, YOU'RE SEEING ANOTHER GIRL
WELL, MAYBE NOT EVERY-THING.


inhale
LET'S BREAK UP...
Hi ...
I...!
I WON'T LISTEN ...
... TO YOUR EXCUSES THIS TIME.
Truth is, I never wanted to hear them in the first place. I just couldn't tell you...
But it seems like I can't forgive you any longer
Until I was able to decide to break up with you, I couldn't let you find out that I had doubts.
ALTHOUGH THESE TWO YEARS WERE REALLY PRECIOUS
THE PAIN IS TOO BIG FOR ME TO HANDLE ...
SO ...

I can't go on thinking that everything's fine ...
...as long as I love him.
WELCOME HOME.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S MORNING
WHY AREN'T YOU SLEEPING ?
I finally said it...
SO ...
WE ARE DONE

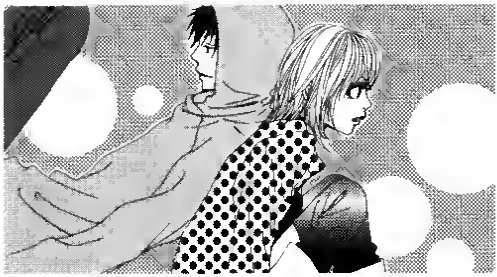
I want to love someone and to be loved the same amount.
But I want things to be collateral.
It's okay if people think I'm childish or even stupid..
"YOU KNOW THE PHRASE "WALK SOMEONE TO THE STATION" CAN ALSO MEAN "WANT TO STAY TOGETHER FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER" TOO."
KOTA!
I TALKED TO HIM ABOUT YOU GETTING A SEPARATE APARTMENT... WE THINK IT'S STILL A LITTLE TOO EARLY...
HEY KOTA

It's been a long time.

Though you might not remember me.

While I was sorting my email addresses, I found yours.
It felt kind of nostalgic, so I decided to write to you. Please send me something back, even if it's just one sentence.
HM.
E-MAIL?
KOTA
I'm happy now.
EH? IT'S FINE. I TURNED OFF MINE JUST BECAUSE MY PARENTS ARE ANNOYING.
SORRY. I'LL TURN MINE OFF, TOO.
THE HOME
SURE!
SORRY KANORI CAN I REPLY TO THIS ONE?
EH? AH NOTHING!
KOTA?
What's wrong?

How are you?
I'm happy, too.
Are you happy?
I've lived for twenty years already.
HM.
WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
NO ...
I THINK I'M HAPPY ...
HA HA HA.
I want to ask all the people I've cared about this question.
I must say I'm a bit scared to know the answer.
But, well, it's not like there's any way for me to confirm the answers.



SENTIMENTAL GOLD
センチメンタル
ゴールド

WHY DON'T YOU STAY OVER?
HEY, JUST SAY YOU'RE STAYING AT YOUR FRIEND'S HOUSE.
I WANT TO BE WITH AYAHA MORE !!!
Recently, Kubo-senpai...
...has been saying the same thing over and over again.

AH..
AHHH..
HI..
HI! JUST HAD CLUB?
Err
WHY THE SNEAKINESS? YOU MEAN YOU HAD A DATE!!
Yeah
I WENT OUT TO EAT WITH NOBUKO AFTERWARDS
A DATE WITH KUROSENPAI?
Well I guess you could say that
YOU TOO,
CLAP
YES!! THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR INTRODUCING US!
INTRODUCED? I JUST INTERMEDIATED...
BUT I'M GLAD IT'S GOING WELL FOR YOU TWO
HEH HEH.

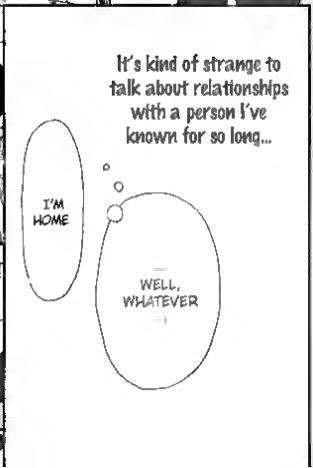
OKAY, SEE YA. NIGHT.
WELL, SEE YA
NIGHT.

clack
HMM... A STRANGE FEELING

...

FLOP

WELCOME HOME
I'M HOME
shut


It's kind of strange to talk about relationships with a person I've known for so long...
I'M HOME
WELL, WHATEVER

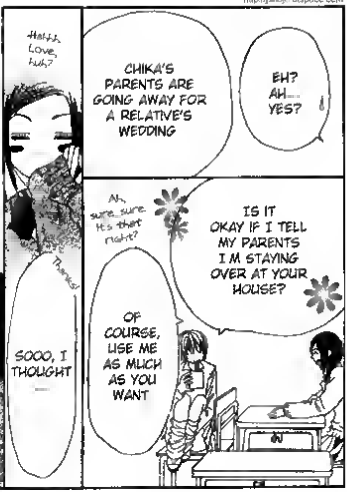
"WHY DON'T YOU STAY OVER?"
SO, IT MEANS THAT AFTER ALL...
To tell the truth, I've had that in my head for a long time now.
HAHHH... I'VE BECOME AN ADULT, TOO...
The two of us have been together till morning many times.
...But...
I'VE BEEN READY FOR IT SINCE WINTER VACATION,
AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'M HESITATING...
BUT IT'S STILL... YOU KNOW...

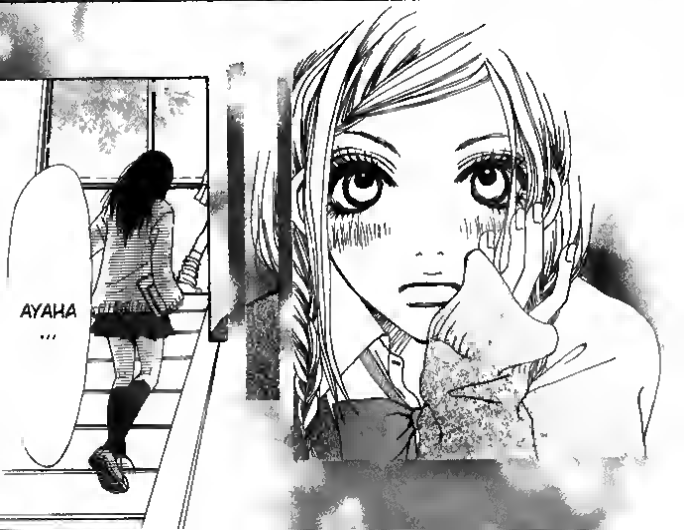
NOBUKO
YUP!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE ENJOYING IT?
YUP
I'm just so happy to finally have a boyfriend, Non-chan!
So direct, too
HI. DID YOU HAVE P.E.?
This guy, too...
OH, HI.
LEND ME YOUR DICTIONARY.
AH, CHIKA.
When did he start giving off a "guy feeling"...?
Now, I'll have it now
About Enlish?
That's next
What section is it in?
The English section, hey?

GRR RRRR !!
Oh no! My praise-tolerance-meter can't take this!!
HEY, AYAHA
KYA HHH!
WHAT?! IS HE DIFFERENT WHEN HE'S WITH YOU?!
HM? HMM — WHEN AT SCHOOL MAYBE
HEH HEH!
Hmm
BUT WE PLAYED TOGETHER ONLY UP UNTIL 3RD GRADE
YOU'VE KNOWN CHIKA LONGER THAN ME
AND HE WAS JUST A NORMAL NOBITA-WANNABE* BACK THEN
NOW HE'S TRYING TO ACT COOL
He's not that suave you know!
Nothing too great about it

Note: Nobita is a character from a legendary manga/anime series called "Doraemon."

Shojo
http://shojo.atspace.com


Hahh.. Love, huh?
Thanks!
SOOO, I THOUGHT
CHIKA'S PARENTS ARE GOING AWAY FOR A RELATIVE'S WEDDING
EH? AH... YES?
Ah, sure, sure. It's that right?
IS IT OKAY IF I TELL MY PARENTS I'M STAYING OVER AT YOUR HOUSE?
OF COURSE, USE ME AS MUCH AS YOU WANT



"Let's go home together" is a date signal.
OKAY!
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER TODAY.
AM I A BOTHER?
He's my first...
... boyfriend.
KETCHUP.
EH?
DON'T WORRY. I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'RE INTERFERING.
I'M ACTUALLY TAKING A BREATHER WITH THIS.
HAPPY.
STUDYING ...
I'M NOT BOTHERING YOUR STUDYING, AM I?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

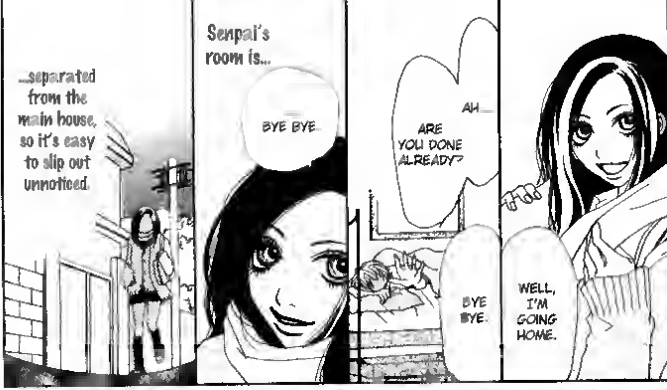
Since then..
I've come to known so many enjoyable feelings.

...I would be saying "sorry" right about now.

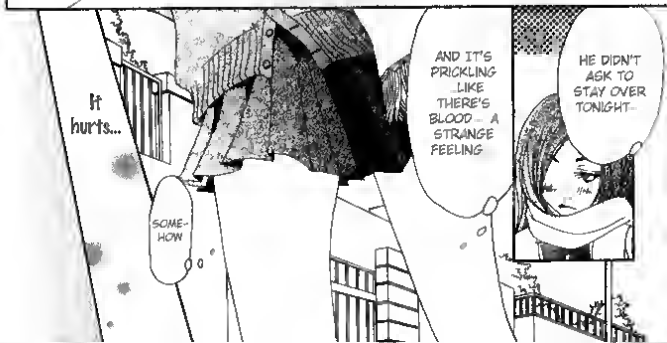
?!!!!
REMOVE
YOUR HAND...
HEY
HEY
AYAHA

STOP IT...!
I DON'T WANT TO
Is it okay?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
Is it okay?
I don't know, but..
SHOULD I DO IT ? WHAT SHOULD I DO ..?
NO... THIS KIND OF FLOW
HA HA SORRY.... IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME, ISN'T IT?
SORRY... CALM DOWN, IT'S ALL RIGHT...
twitch
HEY... JUST RELAX
WHAT? YOU'RE ALREADY WET...
Ha ha

I SAID...
RELAX...!
I don't want him to hate me.


...separated from the main house, so it's easy to slip out unnoticed.
Senpai's room is...
BYE BYE.
AH... ARE YOU DONE ALREADY?
BYE BYE.
WELL, I'M GOING HOME.

It's turned into a gathering spot over time.
I've seen his friends stay over a couple of times.


It hurts...
SOME-HOW
AND IT'S PRICKLING LIKE THERE'S BLOOD— A STRANGE FEELING
HE DIDN'T ASK TO STAY OVER TONIGHT—

About "Scene Zero"..

It's Kota and Ena's middle school story, approximately two years before this original story. It goes on for 3 chapters. Though no one really asked for an explanation... Zero's main character, "Mi," isn't all that cute, but she has a little bit of charm. Sometimes there's this feeling, "Oh?! She might be cute!" I like those kind of girls.

I think shoujo manga characters aren't suited for it though (at least my manga characters.) It's a short story so I let myself get confused with it. Sorry.

"I'm With Her" will continue in a bit. I'm glad that you've followed along.

See you later!!

2004.03.30

©Fujisue Sakura

♥ THANX DEAR ♥

IT WASN'T STRAINED WAS IT?
Sigh
BYE
IS THAT SO ? OKAY THEN
HEEE EEEY !!
HEY !
AYAHA ...!
OH. HEY! MORNING TRAINING?
It's touch isn't it?
LISTEN
SOME-THING BAD?
SOME-THING BAD
It's not me !!
I'VE BEEN GROUNDED!!
HUH?
I WAS ON THE PHONE WITH CHIKA AND MY PARENTS HEARD US
THEY EAVES-DROPPED!!
This makes me so mad!!

GOOD LUCK
...ON YOUR STAY OVER
WELL, GOOD LUCK.
What am I saying good luck for?

AH, BUT IT'S OKAY FOR YOU, AYAHA
YOU CAN STILL USE MY NAME...
As much as you want

How nice.

AH, SENPA...
Hello.
RING
RING
..So..

Beeep
Please leave a message after the beep!
IT'S AYAHA I JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOUR VOICE FOR A BIT.
Umm Err
I'M GOING TO BED QUITE LATE, SO
IF YOU WANT A BREATHER ...PLEASE CALL ME.
Bye
"Good luck studying."
"Good night."
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
TAP
TAP
TAP
OUTGOING
KUSO-SEMPAI
090-8765-1111

UM...
IT'S THE LAST SPURT SO TO SPEAK SO... UM...
It's seriously getting a bit dangerous
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO SEE YOU MUCH NOW...
I... SEE YEAH, IT'S OKAY. GOOD LUCK...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
STILL BUSY?
...OR IS HE BLOCKING ME?
I HOPE I'M WRONG...
...BUT WHY WOULD HE?
"Are you studying?"

1-B
Don't get sick!
I'll wait for a message or a call. Well then, good night.

How nice.
How nice.
How nice.
But I...
More after this...
Many more...
AYAHA, IT'S SENPAI! KUBO-SENPAI
AH, BUT WE'LL BE LATE IF I GO TALK TO HIM.
Let's just go
Many more good things will come my way!
DING
DOOOONG

How nice!!!

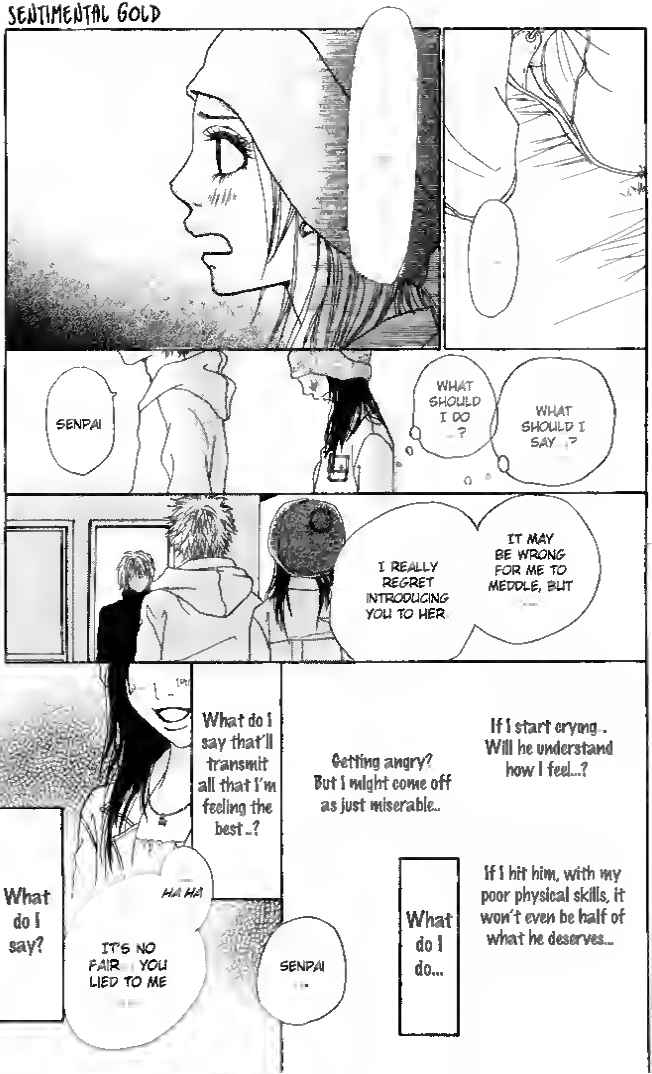
click
HI.
WAH!
WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG?
SINCE NON-CHAN CAN'T COME SO I THOUGHT I'D SUPPLY REFRESHMENTS OVER TO PASS THE LONELY NIGHT.
GOT TIME? WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
- I WAS DOING A SCALE MODEL
HUH!? YOU'RE STILL DOING THOSE?!
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO STAY AT KUBO-SENPAI'S PLACE TODAY?
KSHH
OH, I STILL REMEMBER THIS STRANGE ORNAMENT.
WOW! I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SO LONG.
SHUT UP
HEY

EH? AH, WE DON'T TALK MUCH NOW AFTER HE RETIRED FROM THE CLUB
WAIT? IS THIS ABOUT SOMETHING BAD? DO I REALLY WANT TO HEAR THIS?
HM?
EH? What is it this time?
CHIKA
HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING FROM SENPAI?
...
He's having exams soon, so NO. But... I mean, Hmm
YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH
AND WE LAUGHED YOU KNOW
WE BROKE UP...
EH?!
MAYBE... SOMETHING LIKE A NATURAL LAPSE? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR AGES

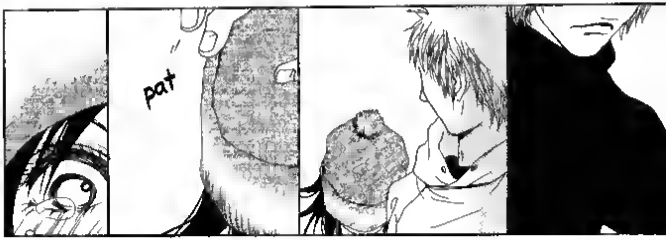
THE LAST TIME WE TALKED, NOTHING SEEMED TO BE DIFFERENT...
BUT MAYBE... AFTER ALL... THERE WAS SOMETHING HE DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT ME...
...I DON'T GET IT..
GOING SOMEWHERE?
HUH?
LET'S GO ASK SENPAI HIMSELF
AH
clack
HEY!
IT'S OKAY Wait STOP
HONESTLY... STOP MUMBLING BY YOURSELF, AND LET'S GO
IN MY HEAD YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN...
...THE "LAUGH QUEEN" SO THIS IMAGE DOESN'T FIT YOU AT ALL.
Ha ha ha!
Ha

COME ON
WHAT IF YOU'RE JUST WORRYING FOR NOTHING ?
Look at yourself!!
You used to be just like Nobita-kun, and look what you've turned into now...
that girls and boys all played together not caring about anything...
After all, it wasn't so long ago,
HUH?!
WHAT? DO YOU GUYS TALK ABOUT THAT KIND OF STUFF?!
HEY NON-CHAN SAID YOU ACT JUST LIKE A BABY WHEN YOU'RE ALONE IS THAT TRUE?

Jshojo
http://jshojo.atspace.com


SENPAI
WHAT SHOULD I DO ...?
WHAT SHOULD I SAY ...?
I REALLY REGRET INTRODUCING YOU TO HER
IT MAY BE WRONG FOR ME TO MEDDLE, BUT ...
What do I say that'll transmit all that I'm feeling the best..?
Getting angry? But I might come off as just miserable..
If I start crying . Will he understand how I feel...?
What do I say?
HA HA
IT'S NO FAIR ... YOU LIED TO ME ...
SENPAI ...
What do I do...
If I hit him, with my poor physical skills, it won't even be half of what he deserves...

What would be good to say now...?
...YOU'D TELL ME WHEN I BECAME A BOTHER...
YOU SAID...
YOU...


pat

...OW! WHAT WAS THAT FOR -?
THWACK
...OW!
SENPAI.
LET'S GO, CHIKA

GOODBYE!
IT WAS REALLY FUN
BUT I REALLY HATE YOU NOW
Goodbye.
Goodbye to the memorable room.
But now I know I won't enter there ever again.
Sometimes I dreamt of staying over at this place.

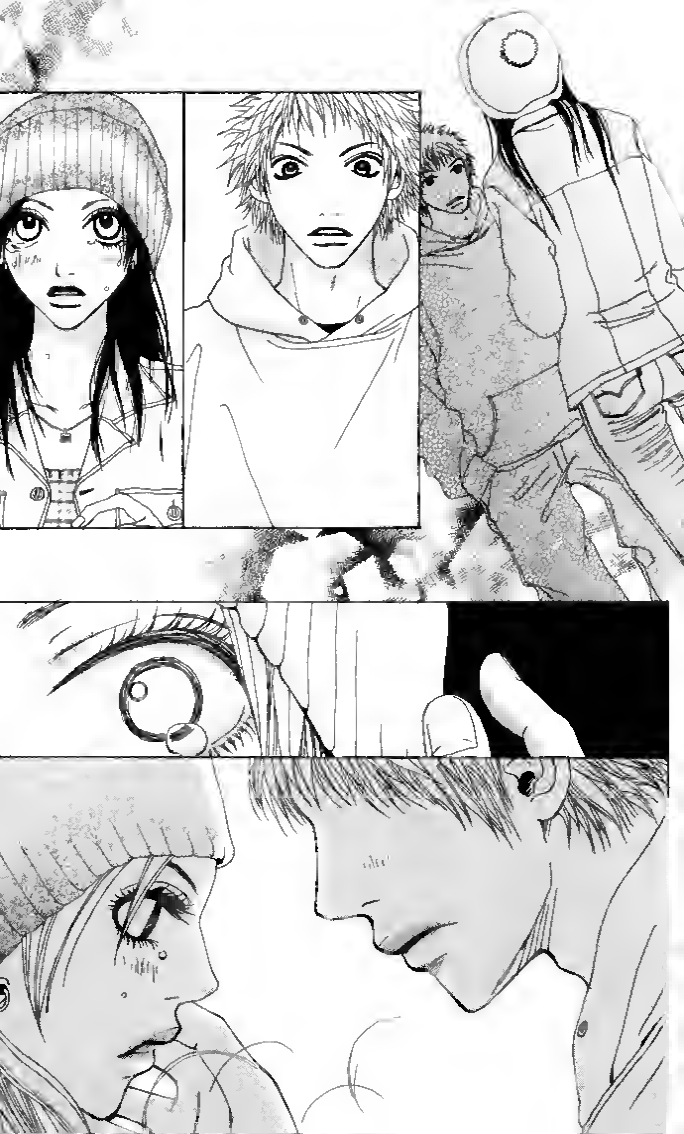
HAAAH I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW

Bye bye...

AMAZING, ISN'T IT? HE'S A TWO-TIMER YEAH, A TWO-TIMER!
MAAAN, THAT'S LIKE IN SOME DRAMA
SORRY I GOT YOU INVOLVED IN WEIRD STUFF
IF EVERYTHING HAD GONE WELL FOR YOU GUYS, YOU'D BE ROLLING AROUND WITH NON-CHAN RIGHT ABOUT NOW...
I'M TELLING YOU, I'M NOT!!
IT FELT LIKE THERE WAS AN ENDING MISSING TO THIS I FEEL GREAT NOW THAT IT'S RESOLVED.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND, YOU KNOW
NO, REALLY
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT...
Really
Sigh
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU NOT TO PRETEND.

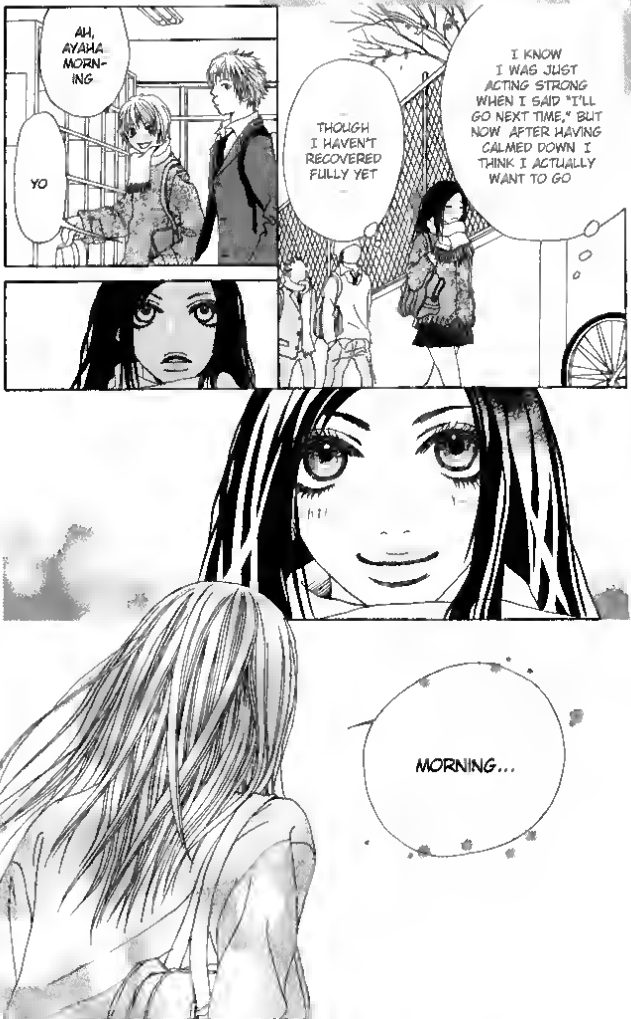
NO, IT'S OKAY. THE "LAUGH QUEEN" PROBABLY CRIES, TOO...
HA HA GOOD THEN.
How about Chika?
I'M SO SILLY TO BE CRYING LIKE THIS...
Ha ha ha
I'm muttering again

What's he like when he's with Non-chan?
I SHOULD THANK YOU... HOW ABOUT A KISS IN NON-CHAN'S PLACE ?
PFFT
IDIOT... WHAT'RE YOU SAYING...?
I WAS NEAR YOU THE WHOLE TIME...
IT WOULD'VE BEEN GREAT IF I HAD FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU INSTEAD...



DONE?
I LIKE NOBUKO!
DA
UWAH!
TONK
DAMN! IF WE KISSED HERE I WOULD'VE DEFINITELY TOLD NON-CHAN
DON'T TEST ME
shot
Ha ha ha
WHAT'LL YOU DO NOW?
IF NOBUKO CAN GET OUT, WE COULD ALL HANG OUT TOGETHER
ARE WE GONNA MAKE A MODEL TOGETHER?
Will you make us rose the details?
I DON'T WANT TO SCREW IT UP FOR NON-CHAN, SO I'LL JUST GO HOME
Is that so?
OH, AH---
UMM...

Inside my head...
I REALLY DIDN'T THINK I'D TALK TO YOU LIKE THIS AGAIN...
IT'S SO SCARY HOW FAST TIME PASSES BY.
TRUE, TRUE...
HAHA..! WELL, GOOD LUCK.
IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY I'LL GO NEXT TIME.
swish
From the beginning until the end, it kept repeating many times over and over again
I was with Senpai. Like a tape playing back time
It's painful. It's mortifying. soppy.. hopeless...
And yet, I don't think I'd like it if it hadn't happened...


AH, AYAHA MORNING
YO
THOUGH I HAVEN'T RECOVERED FULLY YET
I KNOW I WAS JUST ACTING STRONG WHEN I SAID "I'LL GO NEXT TIME," BUT NOW AFTER HAVING CALMED DOWN I THINK I ACTUALLY WANT TO GO
MORNING...